

# Annual Report for fiscal year 2009–2010



A Division of the University of Arkansas System



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The 2010 Annual Report was compiled and edited by Deborah Sabo. Layout, design and cover by Deborah Sabo. Cover photo: Sunrise at Toltec Mounds, June 2010; Photo by Tim Mulvihill.

University of Arkansas System



Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2009–2010 INTRODUCTION

The Arkansas Archeological Survey is a part of the University of Arkansas System. Our mission is to study and protect archeological sites in Arkansas, to preserve and manage information and collections from those sites, and to communicate what we learn to the people of Arkansas. Cooperative agreements with seven state university campuses, two state parks, the UA System's Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, and the City of Blytheville enable scholars at eleven research stations around the state to carry out this mission. The Survey has been a model for statewide archeological programs in the United States and around the world.

Our coordinating office in Fayetteville is the Survey's administrative body. The Director, the State Archeologist, the Survey registrar, the fiscal officer, administrative assistant, publications staff, and outreach programs operate from the CO. The registrar maintains a central archive of all archeological site records for the state. The coordinating office building also contains the University of Arkansas Collection Facility. The Survey acts as a repository for archeological collections originating from state and federally funded projects in Arkansas, our own research, private consulting firms, and donations. Also at the coordinating office are our sponsored research program (SRP) and computer services program (CSP), which support themselves in part through grants and contracts with local, state, and federal agencies and with the business community. The CSP maintains several websites with educational information on Arkansas archeology and frequent updates about ongoing research projects. Our archaeogeophysical applications program is the newest addition to research capabilities centered at the coordinating office.

Professional archeologists at our research stations teach college courses in anthropology and assist their university museums, or develop materials for public interpretation at the state parks, in addition to conducting basic research in their areas. They, along with scholars at the coordinating office, are a living resource for the people of Arkansas, serving the needs of cultural heritage education and preservation in many ways. Local, state, and federal governmental agencies, American Indian tribes, college students, school teachers and K-12 students, tourists, fellow scholars, landowners, amateur archeologists, and all Arkansas residents interested in the archeology, prehistory, and early history of the state are beneficiaries of the Survey's programs and expertise.

At the Survey, science and service go hand-in-hand.



## Arkansas Archeological Survey Research Stations

The Arkansas Archeological Survey has 42 employees statewide. Cooperative agreements between the Survey, seven state university campuses, two state parks, the UA system's Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, and the City of Blytheville provide the eleven research stations with office, laboratory, and collection storage facilities. Stations are staffed by a Ph.D. archeologist and an archeological assistant. The station archeologists provide appropriate services to their hosts: teaching, student advising, committee work, museum support, and other campus service in the case of the universities; data collection and analysis for public interpretation, exhibit development for the Visitor Information Centers, and public contact in the case of the parks. At Blytheville, Survey personnel are working closely with community leaders to help develop area heritage tourism. At WRI the station is emphasizing research and public education in cooperation with the Institute's mission. Staff at the coordinating office in Fayetteville support the stations and contribute to research and education across the state. All station archeologists and other Survey staff members are available to the public, providing information about prehistoric and historic archeology, American Indians, and early settlers of Arkansas to schools, civic groups, and many types of local, state, national, and international organizations. For contact information, see page 107.

# The Director's Pages: Highlights for 2009-2010

## Dr. Thomas J. Green

Since its inception in 1967, the Arkansas Archeological Survey has earned national and international recognition as a model organization for research, information management, and public education about archeology. The scientific reputation of our staff is excellent, yet our accessibility and close cooperation with amateur archeologists, teachers, landowners, American Indian Tribes, the business community, and various governmental departments and agencies have prevented us from becoming an ivory tower institution.

The Survey provides considerable educational, economic, and quality-of-life benefits to Arkansas citizens. Survey faculty teach at six state university campuses. Our field and laboratory projects provide research opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students. We distribute free curriculum enrichment materials and offer dozens of speaker programs to public schools and other groups across the state each year.

The Survey contributes to economic development in Arkansas by assisting federal and state agencies, municipalities, and developers in complying with environmental laws that protect heritage resources. We also assist State Parks and other agencies and institutions with exhibits and interpretive programs that help the tourism industry.

Finally, the quality of life of all Arkansas citizens is enhanced by our outreach mission to disseminate what we learn about the heritage of our state to the general public via talks and demonstrations, print media, and the Internet.

The Survey's unique contribution and enduring success are products of our balanced science and service design, the expertise and integrity of our personnel, and the dedication and energy of our supporters. Some of our accomplishments and challenges in 2009–2010 are outlined below.

## News and Accomplishments for 2009–2010

#### Survey Archeologists Help Tell "Silent Stories" on AETN

Dr. Julie Morrow (ASU station archeologist), Dr. Jamie Brandon (SAU station archeologist), and Dr. Jami Lockhart (Director of Archaeogeophysical Research) all had featured roles in *Silent Storytellers*. Funding for the documentary, filmed and co-produced by Hop Litzwire and AETN's Casey Sanders, was provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (Arkansas Department of Heritage). Morrow, Brandon, and Lockhart talked about their work documenting historic cemeteries as archeological sites, conducting remote sensing surveys at cemeteries to help define boundaries and locate unmarked graves, and assisting local cemetery preservation organizations as Humanities Scholars and advisors on preservation projects funded by Arkansas Humanities Council grants. The Survey has been a central player in the Humanities Council's African American cemetery preservation initiative for several years. The documentary received several Emmy nominations in the 2010 annual awards competition of the Mid-America Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

#### Site Salvage is a Cooperative Effort with Arkansas Landowners

UAPB station archeologist John House has been heading up salvage excavations at the Thibault Plantation locality on Fourche Island (Pulaski County) in the vicinity of the Little Rock Port for the past few years. With help from numerous Survey staff, students, college students from UALR, UAF and Hendrix College, and volunteers—especially members of the Arkansas Archeological Society—House has carried out research at several sites in the area that ultimately will be affected by industrial development. These include the 19th century Thibault family house site and the late prehistoric/protohistoric Isgrig site. Excavations have proceeded on land in private ownership, and on the tract owned by Welspun Pipes Company. The interest, cooperation, and assistance of these landowners provide an example of how the Survey works with Arkansas citizens and companies in a positive way to explore and preserve information about the state's archeological heritage, without hindering plans for development. The investigations at Isgrig are especially important because the site dates to the transitional time period when the latest archeologically defined cultural manifestations could potentially be linked with American Indian groups encountered by the earliest European visitors to the state.

### The Survey at 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology

Arkansas archeologists were especially visible at the 2010 annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, North America's primary academic conference for the profession. Drs. George Sabo III (UAF station archeologist) and Mary Beth Trubitt (HSU station archeologist), along with Dr. Kent Reilly of Texas State University - San Marcos organized a symposium on "James Brown and the Impact of Cahokia in the Mississippian Southeast." Sabo and Blytheville station archeologist Dr. Claudine Payne each presented papers. Trubitt also coorganized (along with Drs. John Kelly of University of Wisconsin - Madison and James Brown of Northwestern University) another symposium, "The Moorehead Moment: The Historical Context of Cahokia's 13th Century Reorganization." Trubitt read a paper, and coauthored a second paper, in the session. Cahokia is the premier prehistoric archeological site in eastern North America, and was the "capitol" of an American Indian cultural florescence that once dominated the entire Mississippi drainage and beyond. Also at this 75th anniversary conference, Dr. Juliet Morrow (ASU station archeologist) presented one solo-authored paper, two coauthored papers, and was a panel member in the forum (sponsored by the SAA's Public Education Committee) "Saving the Planet



Mary Beth Trubitt with Dr. James A. Brown (Northwestern University) following the symposium dedicated to Brown's influence on Cahokia studies that at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archeology. Trubitt co-organized the symposium along with Survey colleague George Sabo III and Kent Reilly of Texas State University. Photo Copyright © 2010 ArchaeoLOGIC USA, LLC,.

... and Archaeology!" which discussed environmental issues. Finally, Dr. Jami Lockhart was coauthor of a poster presentation on archaeogeophysical research at Presidio Los Adaes, Louisiana. And Hester A. Davis, Arkansas's first State Archeologist (now retired) and Dr. Glen Akridge of the Arkansas Archeological Society presented a poster in the session on "Avocational Archaeology Making a Difference: Who's Done It and Who's Doing It," celebrating 50 years of contributions by amateurs to Arkansas archeology.

#### New Guidelines for Research by Contractors and Agencies

Dr. Ann Early (Arkansas State Archeologist) has completed a lengthy process to update and revise those portions of *A State Plan for the Conservation of Archeological Resources in Arkansas* that provide guidelines for acceptable fieldwork and report writing to meet the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Especially, any archeologists whose reports will be reviewed by federal agencies and by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) need this information. The updated Guidelines are an appendix to the *State Plan* and are posted on the Survey website. Revision of the Guidelines involved a process of approval by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. The Survey offers the entire *State Plan* document in digital format to agency or private firm archeologists free of charge upon request.

#### Workshops at Winthrop Rockefeller Institute

The Survey's research station at WRI continued to offer more public education opportunities this year with two weekend seminars that are part of the Arkansas Archeological Society's certification program. Society members who wish to earn recognition, or strengthen skills for enrichment purposes, may enroll in the optional certification program, which involves a self-paced course of classes plus completion of a required number of hours in field and lab projects. Most classes are taught in a five-day sequence during the annual Training Program. However, the campus at WRI provides a scenic location with overnight housing and restaurant facilities for workshops that can be offered in a weekend. This year Dr. Jeff Mitchem taught a class on Human Osteology, and Dr. Skip Stewart-Abernathy taught Historical Archeology.



Jeff Mitchem (Parkin station) teaches a class on human osteology at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. The weekend workshop was for members of the Arkansas Archeological Society, an organization open to anyone interested in the archeology and early history of Arkansas.

## 2010 Training Program "Digs" Toltec Mounds: two-week program combines research, training, and involvement with the local economy

This year's Training Program for amateur archeologists, jointly sponsored by the Arkansas Archeological Society and the Arkansas Archeological Survey, was held at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park and drew 142 registered participants, making it one of the highest-attended "Digs" in the Program's 46-year history. Some participants camped on site (thanks to the generosity and special arrangements provided by Arkansas State Parks), but many stayed in local hotels, and all used local restaurants during the two-week Dig. Several factors combined to bring about the popularity of this year's Dig. The location in central Arkansas eased accessibility from all corners of the state, but a fair number of registrants come from outside Arkansas as well. Another aspect of location was probably even more important. This had to do with the site itself. There had not been an excavation at Toltec Mounds for 20 years. This can justly be called Arkansas's premier prehistoric archeological site, and is one of the most complex and earliest sites representing the mound-building societies that came to dominate the Mississippi Valley in the late prehistoric period. It is associated with the Plum Bayou culture, a Woodland Period society that lived by horticulture and hunting in central and eastern Arkansas between A.D. 650 and 1050. The site covers 100 acres and originally had 18 earthen mounds, the largest of which stand today a spectacular 49 and 39 feet high, pyramidal in shape and flat-topped, possibly to support ceremonial structures. The mounds are arranged around two open plazas, and the whole complex was surrounded on three sides by a mile-long, D-shaped earthen embankment and ditch (the remaining side of the site abuts the bank of an oxbow lake called Mound Pond). Several of the mounds are aligned to sunrise and sunset positions on the solstices and equinoxes. The Toltec Mounds site is a National Historic Landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Places. As a State Park it is a Protected Area in Arkansas. The opportunity to excavate at such an important site compelled many enthusiasts to brave the heat and mosquitoes and the near-guarantee of at least one severe thunderstorm (it always happens). More than a dozen Survey staff members worked at the Dig as excavation supervisors or in other capacities. Dr. Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey, our research station archeologist at Toltec Mounds State Park at the time, devised the research design and directed the Program. Due to Blakney-Bailey's extensive recruitment efforts and outreach at central Arkansas colleges and universities, a larger than usual number of college students enrolled this year, including students from UAF, UALR, UAFS, HSU, SAU, Hendrix College, and Lyon College. Some students obtained field school credit for their participation. Others (especially graduate students) earned valuable field and lab experience, or had the opportunity to teach seminars.



Dedicated Society members brave heat and humidity to volunteer at the first excavation in 20 years at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park during this year's Training Program.

#### Blytheville Station Helps New KIPP School Develop Curriculum

Staff at the Blytheville research station—Dr. Claudine Payne and Marion Haynes—collaborated with Maisie Wright, director of the new KIPP school in Blytheville to create an archeology program for the students. The program for the first year is for 5th graders, with plans to add another grade each year. The archeologists suggested a focus on historic cemeteries as a way to engage the kids with potential for hands-on learning experiences in the local communities. Teachers toured the station, and several consultation meetings occurred prior to the school's opening on June 24th. Archeology is an excellent medium for teaching critical thinking, data manipulation, cultural analysis, simple statistics, and many other skills that are useful for future life, higher education, or work environments.



Part of a 2010 exhibit at the State Capitol, featuring recent archeological investigations by the Survey's Sponsored Research Program at Davidsonville Historic State Park.

#### "Our Uncovered Past" State Capitol Exhibit Featured Survey Research

An exhibit created by David Ware, the State Capitol Historian, provided an overview of research, conservation, and interpretive efforts by the Arkansas Archeological Survey accomplished through various partnerships over the past decade. Dr. Ann Early, the State Archeologist for Arkansas, coordinated topic selection, and worked with other Survey staff members to gather artifacts, illustrations, text, and other elements for the spring 2010 display.

- Prominently featured was the Survey's recent research in partnership with the Department of Arkansas Parks and Tourism at Davidsonville Historic State Park. Archeological investigation, remote sensing and mapping, and new documentary research were all used to learn more about the first Territorial Period town in Arkansas. The exhibit included photographs, artifacts, and publications and reports resulting from this work. One of the remote sensing machines used in the project was loaned to the display as well.
- Although the exhibit area of the UA Museum is no longer in existence, the University still cares for the massive collections. The Survey has research partnerships with the Museum, financed in part by ANCRC grants, to carry out careful inventory and examination of older archeological collections made by Sam Dellinger in the dry rock shelters of the Arkansas Ozarks. These include rare perishable items in need of upgraded curatorial storage and documentation to make them usable for research and educational purposes. The exhibit featured some of the artifacts as well as field and laboratory equipment pertaining to this work.
- The Survey's long-standing partnership with the Arkansas Archeological Society was featured with photographs, text, and artifacts from the two Survey/Society Training Programs held at the Jones Mill Site near Malvern, Arkansas in 2007 and 2008. The Survey works closely with the Society—an organization open to anyone interested in Arkansas archeology—which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010. This solid partnership with its several annual public outreach events is one of our most effective vehicles for teaching about archeology, prehistory, and pioneer history in Arkansas.
- Other public outreach and preservation activities were also described and illustrated in the exhibit cases. These included brief introductions to our web delivery system for archeological database information and our public education presentations, on the Internet and through other media, about Arkansas Indians and Archeology.

## Mary Beth Trubitt Wins Arkansas Humanities Council Support for "Ancient Foodways of Hot Spring County"

The Survey's research station archeologist at Henderson State University Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt directed Training Program excavations for two seasons at the Jones Mill site (3HS28) near Malvern in Hot Spring County. The work fitted into Trubitt's long-term research program on Archaic Period lifeways in the Ouachita River area of Arkansas. She has focussed on procurement, use, and trade of novaculite for stone tools, tackling difficult mapping and testing of quarry sites in the Ouachita Mountains in cooperation with Forest Service archeologists and with help from volunteers. The Arkansas Humanities Council grant enables specialized analysis of floral and faunal remains from the Jones Mill excavations, plus radiocarbon dating, to help understand how Archaic cultures used the environment. This will help fill a gap in one of the longest archeological time periods—the Archaic Period lasted for over 7000 years—for which Arkansas has relatively few dated sites with well analyzed food remains.

#### New Exhibits for Davidsonville Historic State Park

A team of Survey archeologists assisted State Parks Exhibits staff in creating new signs and audio scripts for Davidsonville Historic State Park. Kathleen Cande, Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, Aden Jenkins, and Mary Kwas all were involved in this effort. Mike, Jared and Aden selected and prepared images, maps and information on artifacts and fieldwork performed by the Survey at the historic town site over the past several years. Ms. Cande prepared outlines, and Mary Kwas, the Survey's education specialist, worked from these to produce suitable text. Kwas also copy edited and provided many suggestions and ideas. Altogether, text and images for 11 (4 foot by 6 foot) outdoor wayside exhibits and 18 linear feet of indoor exhibits for the Visitor Center were produced. Survey staff also will perform auger testing at the site in advance of sign placement and mark locations of buried building foundations. Meetings with State Parks Exhibits staff Dorothy Meeks and Keith Martin took place at the Survey in February and twice in March. The Survey team also prepared 19 audio scripts for the Park.



New exhibit panels and artifact displays in the Davidsonville Historic State Park Visitor Center were conceived, scripted, and illustrated with help from Survey SRP staff members.



David Halperin, Haas Hall Academy senior, has been volunteering at the UA Museum Facility for the past three years. Here he shows a 600–800 year old copper plate, reconstructed from hundreds of small fragments. The painstaking work, under the direction of UAF station archeologist Dr. George Sabo III, has been an important contribution to ongoing analysis of materials from Spiro, one of North America's premier archeological sites.

#### Future Archeologists of America: Haas Hall Student Volunteer Makes Contributions

David Halperin is a senior this year at Haas Hall Academy in Fayetteville. He is also taking an archaeology class at the University of Arkansas. This outstanding young man has been volunteering at the UA Museum Facility for the past three years, working under the supervision of UAF research station archeologist George Sabo III. Last year he helped with the Spiro basketry project and among other things he reconstructed two copper plates from fragments. David's reliable and steady presence and careful attention to detail have made real contributions to important ongoing research. His painstaking refitting of hundreds of broken copper fragments to reconstruct complete sheets was a remarkable achievement, and allowed the archeologists to see how the copper sheets had been "bundled" in layers separated by cane splint lattices, then wrapped and tied in worked hide sheets. (For more information, see page 34). This year he is learning to be a full-fledged ceramic vessel analyst, identifying, measuring, and recording attributes on whole ceramic vessels from the Carden Bottoms site, as part of the NEH-funded Central Arkansas River Valley Project.

#### Working with Landowners to Salvage Sites in Northeast Arkansas

Dr. Julie Morrow says she gets a call about a threatened site every time she goes on vacation. Dr. Morrow has a constant program of salvage archeology going on. This year one of the major efforts was in response to calls from a landowner concerned about vandalism at a site on his property. The Harter Knoll site has been known by archeologists since C. B. Moore described it in 1908. Moore performed excavations that revealed human burials. In 1973, the Survey's John House also studied the site, making collections from the surface. Based on these past investigations, it was known that Harter Knoll, and also some nearby related sites, were important during the Late Archaic and Woodland periods, with minor use during the Mississippian period. After the site was badly looted in the spring of 2009, the landowner contacted the ASU research station and requested that the archeologists do what they could at the site. Julie Morrow knew that burials might be present, so she contacted the Quapaw Tribe and worked with their NAGPRA representative to develop a plan of action. In several stages through the end of 2009, Morrow and her crew of volunteers and students excavated at Harter Knoll (see pages 72–73 of this Report for details). Their work was disturbed in December by vandals who trespassed at the site during the night, destroying the excavation units, probably hunting for artifacts to sell. The Independence County Sheriff's Office was notified. Julie Morrow gave public talks during the year about the damage done to archeological sites in Arkansas by such vandalism, using Harter Knoll as an example.

#### Student's Research Garners Southeastern Archaeological Conference Award

John Samuelsen, a graduate student in the Anthropology Department at UAF and Survey employee, won 2nd prize in the Student Paper Competition at the 2009 Southeastern Archaeological Conference, held October 4–7 in Mobile, Alabama. Samuelsen's paper "Archaeogeophysical Investigations of Early Caddo Settlement Patterning at the Crenshaw Site (3MI6)" was based on his Master's thesis research in southwestern Arkansas. Samuelsen's thesis committee members were Drs. George Sabo III, Ann Early, Jamie Brandon, and Jami Lockhart, all Survey archeologists. He is continuing his work at Crenshaw as a Ph.D. candidate. For more information about John's research, see page 86.

#### Student Employment

The Survey continues to be able to provide part-time employment for university students. Work-study funds enabled us to hire three Arkansas State University students during the Fall 2009 semester, and two in Spring 2010, at our research station on that campus. A work-study student from University of Arkansas –Fayetteville is a part-time assistant in the Survey registrar's office. Also at the coordinating office in Fayetteville, our full-time Administrative Specialist I was working on her Art History degree at University of Arkansas – Fayetteville. Several graduate students in the Anthropology Department at the UAF campus are employed at the Survey, mostly on grant funds.

#### NEH-Funded "American Indian Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley" Completes Its First Year

In June 2009 the Survey was awarded a \$240,000 grant from the Collaborative Research Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities for a three-year study of American Indian art, ritual, and social interaction in central Arkansas. The project is a unique collaboration between the Survey, graduate students at the University of Arkansas Department of Anthropology, and members of the Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw Nations. It has been designated a "We the People" project by NEH. Principal investigators are Dr. George Sabo III (UAF research station archeologist) and Dr. Jami Lockart (director of archaeogeophysical research), along with Dr. Andrea Hunter (Tribal Preservation Officer for the Osage Nation). One aspect of the project is to provide scientific archeological context for the UA Museum Facility's collection of ceramic vessels from the Carden Bottoms area in the Central Arkansas River Valley. Though generally recognized as one of the most significant collections of pre-Colombian artworks in the United States, these artifacts were not professionally excavated, so their research potential could never be fully realized. New excavations will provide the needed links between sites and museum specimens. The project also builds on previous six years studying rock art in the area, much of which portrays motifs similar to those found on decorated pottery. Details of the first year's accomplishments are on pages 35–37 of this Report.

#### Focus: Archeological Technical Staff, Fayetteville

Jared Pebworth, Michael Evans, and Aden Jenkins are three staff archeologists who work out of the Survey's coordinating office in Fayetteville. Attached to the Sponsored Research Program, the three are highly skilled at all phases of archeological fieldwork and laboratory procedures, including a number of technical specializations according to their individual interests and the developing needs of the organization. In the course of any given year, Jared, Mike and Aden contribute to dozens of projects across the state, from emergency salvage excavations, to planned contract surveys, to community service projects such as historic cemetery documentation, to major grant-funded research.

On days when they need a "coffee break" from writing, lab analysis, or creating maps using auto-CAD software, the three might be found out by the loading dock behind the Survey building, where they keep a supply of raw chert nodules picked up on surveys, hikes or fishing trips. Honing their skills in various areas of prehistoric technology is a kind of physical relaxation, but also informs their work. The three practice flint knapping, learning to make arrow and dart points, hide scrapers, and other tools similar to the ones they excavate at Arkansas archeological sites. They have also made atl atls—throwing sticks—complete with polished stone weights bound on with rawhide string just like the ones that were used in Archaic Arkansas. Friendly rounds of target practice with the atl atls, which are used to extend the range and force of a throwing spear, have led to increased accuracy: the target used in these throwing rounds has evolved from a bullseye

sketched onto the side of a large cardboard box, to a small round archer's target, a mere 18 inches in diameter. They have also made blowguns out of cane, a weapon observed by the earliest Spanish explorers among the Southeastern Indians, and practiced using bamboo barbecue skewers for the darts, aiming at cardboard targets in the UAF station lab, the darts whizzing over the heads of the other archeologists and volunteers bent over their trays of washed pot sherds and flint chips. Recently, Jared has tried his hand at making duplicates of ancient musical instruments found in Ozark rock shelters, to help with volunteer Jim Rees's research on UA Museum collections from the 1920s and 30s. Experiments with ancient technology have a useful educational benefit. The handmade implements are often taken into northwest Arkansas schools, local museums, and other venues for talks and demonstrations, helping to bring prehistory alive for public audiences.

Jared Pebworth, Mike Evans, and Aden Jenkins all are contributing to the Survey's NEH-funded "American Indian Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley" (see above and pages 35–37). The project's principal investigators at the Survey are Dr. George Sabo III and Dr. Jami Lockhart. Jared, Mike, and Aden are essential to the CARV project as expert crew members, whose efficiency in the field helps ensure that excavations remain on schedule and carried out to the highest standards. But they are much more than field technicians. Each has many years of experience at scores of archeological sites across the state, and associated artifact analysis performed in the lab. In addition, they bring individual specialized skills and interests such as computer-assisted survey and mapping, metal artifact conservation, and lithic (stone tool) analysis. Below are just a few highlights of some of their contributions to this important research, which has been designated by NEH a "We the People" project. According to Dr. Sabo, their ideas and initiative have expanded the project along new lines not envisioned in the original proposal.

#### Mike Evans: Using the Topcon IS-2 Robotic Total Station

The Survey's new robotic Total Station, purchased in the spring of 2010, was acquired to quickly create high resolution maps on mound and other sites where lots of topographic data are needed. The robotic unit also has potential as a quick way to document difficult archeological features, and as an efficient tool for laying out geophysical grids. The IS-2 requires a smaller crew to get the job done: one person to do scanning functions and one or two people to set grid stakes. It can also collect geo-referenced photographs and stitch them together into photomosaics, which are then easily integrated into the Imagemaster 3D software that was supplied with the unit. Imagemaster viewer software can be downloaded for free by anyone interested in viewing the datasets and models created by the IS-2.

The new instrument is being used to create a realistic 3D model of Breckenridge shelter in Benton County and for excavation support and documentation at 3YE25 in Yell County as part of the CARV project. Experimental work is currently being done at 3YE25 in Carden Bottoms to determine if the unit can be used in conjunction with other documentary procedures to better capture pit outlines, house floors, post alignments, and test unit profile information. Photomo-

saics already taken from mapping stations, which capture a complete view from the unit in all directions, will likely prove useful for documenting site condition and changes over time.

Mike Evans with the Topcon robotic Total Station at the Breckenridge shelter.



#### Jared Pebworth: Lithic Resource Study

Jared Pebworth is conducting an experimental study of local and nonlocal lithic raw material variability within the Arkansas River Valley and its tributaries. The results will be compared with analysis of cultural material recovered from Carden Bottoms phase sites. We already know that river cobbles were extensively used, and may be the preferred choice for raw materials used in the manufacture of small stone bifaces, for example, Nodena, Collier, and Washita arrow points as well as thumbnail scrapers and other small tools. This analysis may show preferences within the varied chert types found in river cobbles. The variability of chert types in cobble form is very broad. Jared has already identified exotic cherts from Texas,

Oklahoma, Kansas, and possibly as far west as the Rocky Mountains, in addition to all the varieties found in the Ozarks and the Ouachitas. All these cherts are readily available in gravel deposits along the Arkansas River. This study may also help determine whether exotic lithic materials found on Carden Bottoms phase sites had been traded from afar or simply collected locally. It should aid in interpreting lithic resource availability and procurement strategies in the lower Arkansas River Valley.





Aden Jenkins looks at 1965 Ozark collections to help find the western limits of Carden Bottoms phase.

Jared Pebworth helps to document Carden Bottoms artifacts at the National Museum of the American Indian Collection Facility in Suitland, MD, as part of the CARV project.

### Aden Jenkins: Ozark Reservoir Survey Analysis

Aden Jenkins is examining and documenting the Ozark Reservoir collections, housed at the University of Arkansas Collection Facility in Fayetteville. These collections include artifacts from 59 sites in the Arkansas River Valley areas of Franklin, Crawford, and Sebastian counties. The sites were visited and small collections were made in 1965 during the Ozark Reservoir survey, conducted by Dr. Michael P. Hoffman of the University of Arkansas Museum, with the assistance of the Western Arkansas chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society. Funding was provided by the National Park Service.

Jenkins is producing a general inventory that will enable us to select sites with diagnostic late prehistoric/ historic artifact assemblages. After these sites are selected, Jenkins will create a detailed inventory and an analysis will be performed to determine if the artifacts meet the Carden Bottoms phase criteria. All artifacts will be documented using the same protocols outlined in the NMAI (National Museum of the American Indian) artifact inventory. This project will enable us to better establish the western limits of Carden Bottoms phase site distributions.

#### Contributions to Higher Education in Arkansas

- UAF station archeologist Dr. George Sabo III serves as assistant director of the interdisciplinary Environmental Dynamics Ph.D. Program in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, University of Arkansas.
- Survey archeologists taught 18 college classes to 344 undergraduate and graduate students at six university campuses in Arkansas (UAF, UAPB, UAM, ASU, HSU, SAU) during the 2009–10 academic year.
- Courses taught by Survey archeologists fulfilled basic education requirements and contributed to several undergraduate majors and graduate degree programs at six Arkansas universities, including (for example) Anthropology, History, Geosciences, and Environmental Dynamics at UAF, Heritage Studies at ASU, and African Studies at UAPB.
- Survey archeologists contributed guest lectures, demonstrations of geophysical technologies, and tours of facilities to students attending several colleges and universities in Arkansas, including University of Arkansas – Fayetteville, University of Arkansas – Little Rock, Hendrix College, Henderson State University, Southern Arkansas University, and Arkansas Tech University.
- Survey archeologists filled 27 thesis or dissertation committee positions for UAF graduate students in Anthropology and Environmental Dynamics; one Ph.D. candidate at the College of William and Mary; one Ph.D. candidate at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale; and one M.A. thesis committee at Arkansas Tech University.
- Dr. Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey supervised three students at the Toltec Mounds research station in a new career-oriented archeology internship that she helped develop with faculty at UALR.
- Survey archeologists at all research stations and the coordinating office provided opportunities for hands-on research
  experience in archeological fieldwork and laboratory analysis for undergraduate and graduate students at host campuses, plus students at UALR and Hendrix College.
- The Survey provided employment to qualified students at UAF and ASU.
- Additional service to Arkansas college and university campuses included:
  - participation in course and program development for host departments
  - membership on campus and departmental committees, and curatorial functions for campus museums
  - assistance with historic properties and collections owned by the universities e.g., the Hodges Collection (HSU); Lakeport Plantation (ASU); Drennen-Scott House (UAFS); development of SAU Museum; ongoing UA Museum collections research at UAF; and more

### Contributions to Public Schools and K-12 Education

- The Survey distributes its Teacher Packet containing information, activities, and lesson ideas for classroom use by Arkansas school teachers in printed form, as a CD-ROM, and as downloadable files available on our website.
- The Survey continues to develop educational Internet resources, including two interactive websites (*Rock Art in Arkansas* and *Indians of Arkansas*), plus our main website with information about Arkansas archeological projects. A new interactive website highlighting the archeology of the Central Arkansas River Valley is under development as part of the Survey's current NEH-funded research in the Carden Bottoms area.
- Two student activities from the *Rock Art* website are included in a package of electronic resources distributed to Arkansas public schools by The Learning Institute in Little Rock.
- Survey archeologists gave 20 talks on archeology, American Indians, and early Arkansas, including Career Day presentations, to K-12 students and their teachers at schools across the state, with combined audiences of over 1000.
- Dr. Stewart-Abernathy and his assistants at the WRI station participated in Project Dig, a program that develops concept learning and critical thinking skills through archeology. About 40 students in the Gifted & Talented Programs from Pine Grove Elementary School and Wooster Elementary School (Greenbrier) took part.

- Survey staff members Dr. John House and Dr. Juliet Morrow served as judges in Regional Science Fairs.
- Survey archeologists assisted with Scouting archaeology merit badges.
- Mary Kwas taught three sessions of "Trash Box Archeology" to 42 4th–6th graders at University Days on the UAF campus

### Public Service and Outreach

- The Survey works closely with several state and federal agencies whose responsibilities under environmental and cultural preservation statutes include the management and protection of archeological sites:
  - Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department
  - Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism
  - Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
  - Department of Arkansas Heritage and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
  - National Park Service
  - USDA Forest Service
  - U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- We continued our NAGPRA compliance program in cooperation with several American Indian Tribes. The federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) requires institutions such as museums and universities to inventory their archeological and ethnographic collections of human remains, funerary objects, sacred artifacts, and items of cultural patrimony. These remains and objects must be repatriated to modern representatives of the appropriate culturally affiliated American Indian Tribe. The Survey's activities are essential for the UA's compliance with this federal law. We also curate, under contract, collections owned by various government entities that are subject to NAGPRA.
- Dr. Jamie Brandon, Dr. Juliet Morrow, and Dr. Jami Lockhart appeared in the AETN documentary *Silent Storytellers*, a television program about preserving Arkansas's historic cemeteries.
- Approximately 100 public lectures and other presentations by Survey staff reached audiences of more than 3000.
- Survey staff have contributed about 40 articles to the Butler Center Library's *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture* project.
- 142 members of the Arkansas Archeological Society attended our jointly managed annual Training Program for amateur archeologists. The 2010 program at the Toltec Mounds site was directed by Dr. Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey, and hosted by Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park.
- Survey staff members Kathleen Cande, Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, Aden Jenkins, and Mary Kwas collaborated with Arkansas State Parks Exhibits staff to develop new wayside signs and Visitor Center exhibits for Davidsonville Historic State Park.
- State Archeologist Dr. Ann Early, and other Survey staff members, assisted State Capitol Historian David Ware with preparation of a Spring 2010 exhibit for the State Capitol Building, "Our Uncovered Past," highlighting recent Survey contributions in partnership with State Parks, the University of Arkansas, the Arkansas Archeological Society, and others.
- Our main website received, on average, 931 visits per month, with a year-end total of 11,168.
- We maintain two educational interactive websites: *Indians of Arkansas* received 4300 visits per month and *Rock Art in Arkansas* received 1400 visits per month.
- Dr. Claudine Payne (Blytheville) serves as Vice-Chair on the Delta Gateway Museum Commission. Blytheville station staff helped prepare three exhibits for the Gateway Museum this year.
- Marion Haynes (Blytheville) continued his appointment to the Arkansas Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council.

- Dr. Ann Early (State Archeologist) serves on the Department of Arkansas Heritage State Review Board for Historic Preservation, an appointment by the Governor of Arkansas.
- Dr. Jamie Brandon (SAU) serves on the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, an appointment by the Governor of Arkansas.
- Michael Evans serves as a member of the Benton County Historical Preservation Committee.
- Survey archeologists provided consultation and advice, including acting as Humanities Scholars for Arkansas Humanities Council grant proposals, to numerous groups and individuals working on projects to document and protect historic African-American cemeteries. Several staff made presentations at two Cemetery Preservation workshops, in Marshall and Little Rock (combined attendance, about 100).
- Over 1000 copies of various leaflets and flyers produced by the Survey about Arkansas archeology and history were sent out in response to requests for information from members of the public.

#### **Professional Service**

- Survey staff provided consultation, advice, or other assistance to over 125 agencies, firms, museums, schools, parks, civic groups, and other bodies, in addition to service rendered to research station host institutions.
- Survey staff served as officers, members of various committees, or in other service capacities for
  - Society for American Archaeology
  - Southeastern Archaeological Conference
  - Society for Historical Archaeology
  - South Central Historical Archeology Conference
  - Society for Bead Researchers
  - Caddo Conference
  - Register of Professional Archeologists
  - National Association of State Archeologists
  - Florida Anthropological Society
  - Arkansas Historical Association
- The State Archeologist posted revised "Guidelines for Fieldwork and Report Writing in Arkansas," an appendix to the Arkansas *State Plan*, on the Survey website for access by agency and private firm archeologists.

#### Grants, Honors & Awards

- \$240,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities for "American Indian Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley," co-principal investigators: Dr. George Sabo III (UAF), Dr. Jami Lockhart (CSP), and Dr. Andrea Hunter (Osage Nation). Designated a "We the People" project by NEH.
- \$425,456 from Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for the AMASDA Online Project (ongoing multiyear project, awarded 2007) (Registrar, CSP, UAF). Extension through June 2011.
- \$80,090 from Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council for "Prehistoric Heritage of Northeast Arkansas" (Year Two) (SRP).
- \$66,466 from Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council for "Records of the Arkansas Archeological Survey," a documentation/archive evaluation and upgrade.
- \$1250 from the Arkansas Archeological Society Research Fund for AMS radiocarbon and botanical analysis for the Taylor Mounds, 3DR2 (Dr. Marvin Jeter, UAM).
- \$1190 from the Arkansas Archeological Society Research Fund for AMS radiocarbon dates from site 3LO226 (Larry Porter, UA–WRI).

- \$595 from the Arkansas Archeological Society Research Fund for "Reconstructing Foodways during the Middle Archaic," AMS radiocarbon date from the Jones Mill site, 3HS28 (Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, HSU).
- \$1845 from the Arkansas Humanities Council for "Reconstructing Ancient Foodways in Hot Spring County, Arkansas," floral and faunal analysis from the Jones Mill site, 3HS28 (Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, HSU).

#### Scientific Achievements & Archeological Mission

- Survey professional staff authored or coauthored 32 publications and reports, and presented 41 papers at professional meetings in 2009–2010.
- 745 new archeological sites were recorded, bringing the total number of sites in Arkansas site files to 44,667.
- 173 new archeological projects were entered in the database, bringing the projects total to 6036.
- The Survey registrar facilitated 245 requests for information from the Arkansas site files by students, researchers, and project managers; 211 researchers visited the office to use the site records.
- Our sponsored research program administered new grants and contracts with budgets totaling \$152,532.46 and submitted three final project reports.
- The Survey logged over 12,287 hours of volunteer help from students and citizens of Arkansas on various field and laboratory projects around the state.
- The Survey's AMASDA database (Automated Management of Archeological Site Data in Arkansas) is one of the first and best computerized site file systems in the country. Our computer services program and registrar's office personnel are constantly working to expand and upgrade the AMASDA system and to add new databases. This work is currently proceeding in part with the assistance of a major grant from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department (see pp. 33, 85, 91).

## Challenges-and Some Solutions

The Survey recognizes a number of consistent and ongoing challenges in fulfilling our mission of research, service, and education. While funding continues to limit us in many ways, we are committed to evaluating our programs from within and seeking ever more creative and more efficient ways to meet our goals.

- Site Destruction. Damage to sites and the loss of Arkansas's irreplaceable archeological heritage due to changing land use patterns and vandalism remains an important issue.
  - The pressure of land development threatens sites in the state's growth regions. Land-leveling for agriculture also destroys large numbers of sites. The Survey has worked successfully with landowners and tenants to salvage archeological information without impeding normal land use.
  - Rock shelters in the Ozarks have increasingly been exploited as illicit methamphetamine labs, with attendant vandalism of archeological deposits. The Survey has worked with various law enforcement agencies to assist investigations and prosecutions.
  - The Survey and the Arkansas Archeological Society developed a **Site Steward Program** to inform interested landowners about archeological sites and how to protect them.
  - Passage of Act 217 of 2007, an Amendment to the 1967 Arkansas Antiquities Act, strengthened protection of archeological sites by reclassifying certain violations as felonies.
- Funding for Backlog of Reports. It is often easier to obtain funding for the more "glamorous" fieldwork phase of an archeological project than for specialized laboratory work and report-writing. Yet, excavations mean little until what we learn from them becomes available to our colleagues, to students, and to the interested public. We need to find ways to support the "lab and desk work" necessary to bring our research to full fruition.
  - Grants from the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council are helping with this effort.
  - AmeriCorps Interns at the coordinating office in Fayetteville, and at the Blytheville, Toltec Mounds, HSU, and UA–WRI research stations have provided needed extra help.

- Public Education and Heritage Tourism Opportunities. Even after 42 years of effort by the Survey, many Arkansans still do not know that Arkansas possesses archeological sites recognized for their importance by professionals throughout the United States and around the world. We need to improve how we tell the stories of Arkansas history and prehistory through the "voice" of archeology.
  - We need to write more Popular Series books for the general public and continue to develop the educational content of our website. Funding to hire more assistants is an ongoing barrier.
  - Our *Indians of Arkansas* website is a significant educational resources for learning and teaching about archeology and anthropology in Arkansas and the South.
  - Arkansas has only a few archeology-themed parks where the public can visit interpreted archeological sites. We would like to work with State Parks, the Forest Service, and the National Park Service to develop archeological heritage tourism.
  - We continued to provide archeological support for development at Historic Davidsonville and Historic Washington State Parks, in addition to the regular programs of research at Toltec and Parkin. This year, the annual Training Program sponsored jointly by the Survey and the Arkansas Archeological Society was held at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park; 142 people attended the Dig from all over Arkansas and across the country.
  - There is presently no national park devoted to American Indian history in the Mississippi Valley—an outrageous situation considering the glorious cultures that flourished here. The Survey supports the efforts of the community of Blytheville to lobby for development of an archeology-themed national park in our state.
- **Budget Constraints and Institutional Issues**. Low salaries and an unpredictable budget-stream for capitol equipment have been our most consistent challenges over the years. The recent recession added to these uncertainties.
  - Survey employees earn significantly less than their comparably qualified colleagues at universities, federal agencies, and private Cultural Resource Management firms. This has made it difficult to recruit new station archeologists and to keep station assistants.

## The Director of the Arkansas Archeological Survey

Thomas J. Green joined the Survey in 1992 after a nationwide search for Director. He received his Ph.D. in anthropology in 1977 from Indiana University. He was State Archeologist for Idaho from 1976 to 1992, and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Idaho from 1986 to 1992. His professional specializations are American Indian prehistory and cultural resource management. He is a Research Associate Professor of Anthropology at University of Arkansas – Fayetteville, where he normally teaches one course per year.

## **Teaching Activities**

- taught ANTH 4442/5443, Cultural Resource Management at UAF (Spring 2010, 7 undergraduates, 4 graduate students); served on one Master's committee
- co-taught a one-week Planning Associates Class on cultural resources and tribal consultation for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle, WA (12 students)
- co-taught a one-week Prospect Course in Cultural Resources for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Santa Fe, NM (25 students)

Dr. Green makes opening remarks to representatives of the Caddo, Quapaw, and Osage Nations at a planning meeting to initiate work on the NEH-funded "Art, Archeology, and Social Identity in the Central Arkansas River Valley" research project.





Dr. Green (left) with Dr. Claudine Payne (Survey research station archeologist at Blytheville), and Arkansas State Senator Steve Bryles at the Arkansas Archeological Society's 2009 annual meeting in Eureka Springs. Senator Bryles received the Society's McGimsey Preservation Award for his work in support of archeology and historic preservation as elements of a better educational foundation for the youth and citizens of Arkansas.

## Accounting & Administrative Staff

## Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs Betty Grant (Retired) Sherril Bowman

Sherril Bowman took over the Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs position in November 2009. Prior to this she had been employed at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. She received her accounting degree from the University of Arkansas – Fayetteville in 1982. She is responsible for all budgeting functions of the Survey and works closely with the Survey Director. This includes fiscal year budgets, quarterly budgets, and annual budgets. She balances our accounts monthly against the Departmental Budget Reports in order to stay within our allocated fiscal year budget. She also manages the finances for all grants and contracts the Survey is awarded. She is in charge of all building maintenance functions and has worked closely with the University's "Going Green" Team to implement changes to the Survey building. She supervises the Administrative Specialist 1 and Institutional Service Assistant.

**Betty Grant** retired in October 2009 after 18 years, first as Survey Accountant, and from 2002 as Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs. Betty's years of service to the Arkansas Archeological Survey were marked by diligence, attention to detail, an uncanny ability to "balance to the penny," and personal kindness.

## Survey Research Assistant/Publications Accountant Lisa Davison

Lisa Davison has been with the Survey for four years and the University of Arkansas for almost 13 years. She serves as Survey Research Assistant and as Accountant for the Publications Program. Lisa is the Departmental Representative for Human Resources, Benefits, Payroll, Leave, Vehicle Fleet, Travel, Procurement, Property Accounting, and Financial and Business Affairs. As Accountant for Publications she is responsible for all accounting functions, book orders, shipping, receiving, reports, and billing issues. The University continues to implement changes that require training. Ms. Davison completes certification in each new program.

### Administrative Assistant

Barbara Scott

**Barbara Scott** has been the Survey's Administrative Assistant at the coordinating office in Fayetteville since 1998. At the CO she divides her time between administrative duties for the Survey, and as liaison with the Arkansas Archeological Society. Ms. Scott coordinates communications throughout the Survey's statewide organization and performs numerous tasks for other staff members. Among these, she helps the Survey's education specialist prepare and distribute Teacher Packets and Archeology Month materials. As Society Liaison, she keeps the Membership database up to date, assists the Society's officers, and works on logistical arrangements for the summer Training Program, acting as Field Secretary. Ms. Scott also assists with preparations and logistics for the Society's Annual Meeting and manages the Certification Program's database.

## Administrative Specialist I

Deena Owens

Deena Owens began as Clerical Assistant I in August 2007 and was promoted to Administrative Specialist I in May 2008. She is our "welcoming face," serving as the coordinating office receptionist, seeing to it that visitors check in at the front desk and helping them find their destinations within the building. She answers the telephone and coordinates all communications within the CO. Deena maintains office supplies, assembles and distributes the mail, checks in deliveries from UPS and various vendors, and is the caretaker of the conference room calendar. Deena assists the Publications Program by looking up shipping weights, and by quality-checking new deliveries of books. She is also the unofficial "Morale Officer," organizing office celebrations for holidays and staff achievements. Ms. Owens resigned her job at the end of the fiscal year in order to finish her Art History degree at UAF.

# The State Archeologist

Dr. Ann M. Early

The duties of the State Archeologist involve all aspects of public archeology, from site reporting to liaison with the public agencies to public education and outreach programs. These activities include preservation planning, review of nominations of archeological properties to the National Register of Historic Places, and establishing guidelines for archeological research in the state. Information on state laws pertaining to archeological sites in Arkansas is available from this office. The State Archeologist also oversees the Survey's Education Program, which produces a variety of materials such as books, exhibits, and informational flyers for teachers, students, and the general public, and works closely with the Arkansas Archeological Society, an active organization of amateur archeologists, on such projects as the annual Training Program and Archeology Month.

## 2009–2010 Activities

Ann M. Early (Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Amherst, 1973) is the second person to serve as State Archeologist for Arkansas. She was hired to the position in 1999 after 27 years as Survey research station archeologist at Henderson State University. Dr. Early is the author of numerous books and articles on Arkansas archeology. Her research has focused on human ecology in the uplands of the Trans-Mississippi South, Caddo Indian cultural traditions and relationships, Caddo pottery design and typology, and the effects of Euroamerican cultural perceptions on popular images of the past. As State Archeologist, she has been active in historic cemetery preservation initiatives, among many other projects.

## Teaching & Higher Education

Dr. Ann Early is Research Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

- Early team-taught (with Dr. George Sabo III) a course on Caddo ceramics, designed primarily as a lab practicum, providing hands-on experience in identification, analysis and typology (Fall 2009, 6 students). She also oversaw student Roger Cain in the Davis Internship, as he pursued his summer project collecting information about Cherokees in Arkansas.
- Early served on three graduate student committees at UAF, all of whom successfully defended their master's the ses during the year. She helped four UAF Ph.D. candidates with information for their projects, and gave research advice students at UCA and UALR

## **Professional Service**

- **Boards, Commissions & Organizations**. Early is a board member of the Arkansas Humanities Council; Secretary of the Arkansas State Review Board for Historic Preservation; President-Elect of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference; and Vice President of the National Association of State Archeologists.
- Early participated in planning and preparations for the 2011 Caddo Conference, to be held in Fort Smith, cosponsored by the Arkansas Archeological Survey and the University of Arkansas – Fort Smith.

## Records & Collections Management / Review of Projects

- Early's updated "Guidelines for Fieldwork and Report Writing" and "Guidelines for Bioarcheological Analysis," appendices to the *State Plan for Conservation of Archeological Resources in Arkansas,* were implemented and posted to the Survey website.
- Early participated (with the Survey Registrar's Office, Survey Director, and other staff) in updating the "Access to Records Guidelines and Applications." She also participated in planning a project to rescue and archive Arkansas Archeological Survey documents and photographs generated over the last 40 years.
- Early negotiated the transfer of archeological collections from the Museum of Discovery in Little Rock to the UA Collection Facility/Arkansas Archeological Survey. She facilitated donations of three collections to Survey custody.

• **Project & Permit Reviews**. Early reviewed 36 Corps of Engineers permit applications/public notices. She reviewed Section 106 generated comments from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program to federal agencies, citizens, and other bodies with respect to archeological sites. She also reviewed archeological reports submitted by private contracting firms for work carried out in Arkansas. She responded to approximately 100 situations requiring advice to federal land managers, contract archeologists, American Indian Tribes, and other professional constituents regarding archeological sites and/or artifacts in Arkansas.

### **Public Archeology**

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Early was a key figure in organizing the Survey's response to statewide citizen interest in historic cemeteries by developing and promoting a process to add cemeteries to the state site files. She helped to establish the Arkansas Humanities Council's initiative for grant-supported projects to document and protect historic African American cemeteries in Arkansas. She continues to participate in these efforts, this year providing advice or assistance to at least 38 persons and organizations, including the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. She attended a meeting of Arkansas Humanities Council and Survey staff about the initiative, and a planning session for a statewide cemetery preservation alliance. Dr. Early worked with Deborah Sabo (Survey Research Assistant) to revise the Survey's Cemetery Preservation Resource brochure. She attended Cemetery Symposium II in Little Rock (March 2010). She gave a presentation, "Cemetery Preservation Programs and Issues," to the Marion Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Fayetteville.
- Service to American Indian Tribes. Early coordinates activities to identify, secure, and repatriate Native American human remains that may be uncovered and/or brought to the attention of authorities in various circumstances. She provides information on Arkansas's State Burial Law and the federal NAGPRA requirements to local law enforcement and others when needed, and maintains communication with Tribal representatives. This year there were incidents of disturbance of human burials in archeological contexts (in Independence and Mississippi Counties), and two repatriations. Dr. Early provided information on a Keepsafe Cemetery in Arkansas to the Osage Tribe. She participated in a panel about site preservation at the Forest Service-sponsored "To Bridge a Gap" conference in Tulsa.
- Exhibits & Outreach. Early worked with David Ware (Capitol Historian) who developed an exhibit of recent work by the Arkansas Archeological Survey at the State Capitol. She also gave advice and assistance on selection of American Indian objects from the UA Museum Curation Facility to be displayed in the Arkansas Made Gallery at the Historic Arkansas Museum. She edited three public history articles for the Secretary of State's Office.
- Arkansas Archeological Society. Early advised the Society on their Stewardship Program and taught the Stewards Program Workshop during the annual Training Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park. She also taught sessions of the Beginner's Orientation class at the Training Program, and was involved in much of the administrative preparation in the months preceding the Program.
- **Presentations & Programs**. Early presented papers at the annual meeting of the Arkansas Archeological Society in Eureka Springs, the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological Association in Norman, OK, the Caddo and Mississippian Symposium at the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, OK, the Marion Chapter of the DAR in Fayetteville, AR, the Caddo Conference in Tyler, TX, the Arkansas Historical Association in Jonesboro, AR, Historic Washington State Park in Hempstead County, AR, the "To Bridge a Gap" Conference in Tulsa, OK, and the Searcy County Historical Society in Marshall, AR.
- Early responded to approximately 90 requests for information and/or assistance from the public (individuals or organizations), providing information, references, or guidance about archeological questions and concerns.

### **Research Projects**

- Early continued to pursue research and prepare reports on: the Aikman Mound excavations and Aikman collections in the UA Museum Collection; historic settlement in Arkansas from GLO records; Choctaw Removal and land claims in Arkansas; Choctaw Certificates and the Arkansas Land Grab; Caddo connections in the Central Arkansas River Valley, the Historic period Cherokees in Arkansas; the Gaither Mound collection analysis; and a pilot project thin-section study of Caddo ceramics.
- Early reviewed and/or revised 29 essays for the online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*; she wrote an article on "Indian Pottery" for the *Encyclopedia*; she coauthored an essay on "Choctaw Certificates" for the *Searcy County Historical Newsletter*; she identified ceramics for colleagues in Iowa and Louisiana.

# **Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park**

Dr. Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey, Station Archeologist Marilyn Whitlow, Secretary/Laboratory Assistant Mallory Bader, AmeriCorps Intern

The Toltec Mounds research station is located at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park in Scott. The Toltec Mounds site is a National Historic Landmark. Survey staff carry out ongoing research at the site, providing the primary resources for development of interpretive programs at the park. The Toltec Mounds site was the religious, social, and political center for people of the Plum Bayou culture of central Arkansas. Built and occupied between A.D. 650 and 1050, it is one of the largest and most complex American Indian sites in the Mississippi Valley. Archeologists who visited the site more than 100 years ago found 16 mounds inside a 5298-foot-long ditch and earthen embankment. Though many of the mounds have been plowed down or mined for fill dirt, several remain visible today, along with remnants of the embankment. Most of the mounds were square, flat-topped earthen structures built by carrying basket-loads of dirt. Several of the mounds were arranged around an open plaza and aligned according to astronomical observations. The two largest were built in stages, and stand today at 39 and 49 feet high. The site had a small permanent population of religious and political leaders and their families, but most Plum Bayou people lived in scattered villages and hamlets in the surrounding countryside, only gathering at the site for religious and community activities. The Plum Bayou people grew a variety of native domesticated crops, harvested nuts, hunted, and fished.

## News & Research

#### 2010 Arkansas Archeological Society Training Program

Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey directed the Arkansas Archeological Society annual Training Program, which took place at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, June 5–20. This was the first Training Program at the park in 20 years, and it drew a large number of old and new volunteers. In addition to supervising in the field and lab, Arkansas Archeological Survey staff members taught seminars on various topics: Faunal Analysis, Lithics, Research Design, Basic Lab, and Basic Excavation. Participants were also treated to several evening lectures by Survey staff and other professional archeologists, allowing them to learn about different types of archeological research, as well as future volunteer opportunities in archeology.

Most of the excavations during the Training Program were in the vicinity of Mound D and centered on Feature D-7, first recorded by Martha Rolingson (former station archeologist) in 1979. Rolingson identified eleven postholes penetrating a charred silt deposit. During the June 2010 Training Program, block excavations revealed a great deal more of Feature D-7—over 60 square meters of a partially baked structural surface with over 100 posthole and pit features. This provides important information relating to Late Woodland period structures, for which we have very little data in Arkansas. Nearby, a crew explored the eastern portion of Mound D, revealing well-defined basket-loading overlying a thick midden of animal bones, pottery, and stone tools, along with more unusual artifacts, such as fragments of platform pipes. A crew also excavated at Mound P, a previously unexplored mound adjacent to the bank of Mound Lake. The crew defined the stratigraphy of this midden-filled mound, identified numerous features, and uncovered thousands of well-preserved animal bones and many exotic artifacts, such as an engraved bone hairpin, a copper fragment, decorated Coles Creek and red-filmed pottery, and perforated bone and pottery sherd discs.

The data from the 2010 summer Training Program will be important for refining our understanding of the Toltec Mounds site and its significance to the people who used it—the Late Woodland Plum Bayou culture. The new excavations also will greatly enhance interpretation of the site for visitors to Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park.

The interest and participation in the Training Program resulted in a notable increase in membership of the Arkansas Archeological Society. It also generated interest from the local and state-wide press, resulting in three articles in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, as well as pieces in the *Arkansas Times*, the *Lonoke Democrat*, and numerous blogs and on-line articles.



2010 Training Program crew at Mound D. In the foreground (left) are Arkansas Archeological Society members Paul Knapp & Steve Jacober, and Survey station archeologist Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey (center).

#### **Toltec Geophysics and Mapping**

Blakney-Bailey continued her collaboration with Dr. Jami Lockhart (the Survey's geophysical and GIS specialist) on a large-scale geophysics project at the Toltec Mounds site. The majority of the site has now been covered by gradiometry surveys. Soil resistivity and ground penetrating radar surveys were also used to supplement the gradiometry. This year, UAF graduate students Duncan McKinnon and John Samuelsen, AmeriCorps intern Mallory Bader, and UALR interns Rachel Ferguson and Ezra Phillips also assisted in the fieldwork.

UAFS station archeologist Tim Mulvihill began a mapping project of Toltec Mounds. Using a robotic total station, Mulvihill has nearly completed a micro-topographic map of the entire site. This will be a valuable tool for both the Survey and the state park, as the last mapping project (which was much less detailed) took place in the 1970s.

#### **UALR Internship at Toltec Mounds**

During the 2009 fall semester, Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey supervised an internship course that she developed through the UALR Department of Sociology and Anthropology. The course, ANTH 4327, Field Experience: Toltec Mounds, was designed to give students practical "hands on" experience in the discipline of archeology. Students worked with the artifact collections stored at the Toltec Mounds research station. Three students each completed 90 hours in the lab. Blakney-Bailey instructed the students on artifact identification and data entry. She also worked with the students on preparing curriculum vitae and letters that may be used for graduate school and employment applications.

## Excavations on the Lake Bank of Toltec Mounds

In the late summer of 2009, a storm uprooted a large oak tree along the southwestern edge of the Toltec Mounds site along the lake bank. The crater that resulted from the tree-fall exposed many artifacts. During the fall of 2009 and the spring of 2010 Blakney-Bailey, with the help of 26 volunteers, excavated several test units, uncovering thousands of artifacts and numerous features, including postholes. Because this was the first excavation at the site in 20 years, the park scheduled tours to observe the work in progress on weekends. Blakney-Bailey also gave tours to numerous visitors, including a large group of Girls Scouts,



Volunteers excavate at the tree fall.

who were working on their Archeology Rocker. Blakney-Bailey and Stewart Carlton (park superintendent) were interviewed by reporter Ron Wolfe regarding the significance of the work and the findings. Wolfe's article was featured in the *Democrat-Gazette*.

#### Partnership with AmeriCorps

Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey supervised AmeriCorps worker, Mallory Bader, who was hired by the Survey to contribute 1700 hours to the Toltec Mounds research station (between October 1, 2009 and September 30, 2010). Bader had previously contributed 300 hours (July 1 to September 30). As a part of her service, Mallory completed an inventory of the station's library. The inventory was entered into an Access database, so that researchers can search for specific types of data in the reports. Mallory also contributed greatly by working as a supervisor in the Training Program and assisting with preparations and fieldwork leading up to the program.



Mallory Bader (AmeriCorps) and Amy Griffin (Toltec Mounds State Park) work the screens.

## **Toltec Mounds Station Personnel**

Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey (Ph.D., University of Florida, 2007) was Research Station Archeologist for Toltec Archeological State Park with the Survey and Research Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. She joined the Survey as Toltec station archeologist in March 2008. During her time with the Survey she applied her knowledge of Southeastern Indians and prehistory to the continued development of a long-term research program at the Toltec Mounds site and its environs. She also worked diligently to develop a career-oriented archeology internship at Toltec for UALR and other central Arkansas university students. Dr. Blakney-Bailey resigned her position at the end of the fiscal year.

Marilyn Whitlow has been Secretary at the Toltec Mounds station since 1985. She works with Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey on many aspects of station management, including daily operations, research (field and lab), and outreach. She has recently contributed to the Plum Bayou survey, the cemetery recording project, development of temporary exhibits, the Toltec Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society, and preparations for the 2010 Training Program.

## **Professional Service**

- Blakney-Bailey served on the Publications Committee for the Arkansas Archeological Survey.
- Blakney-Bailey reviewed a manuscript submitted to *The Florida Anthropologist*.
- Blakney-Bailey submitted a mid-service report to the AmeriCorps Program Director at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- UALR Archeology Internship. Three students participated in the Internship. Each student obtained 90 hours of hands-on archeological work experience at the Toltec station under Blakney-Bailey's supervision. Most of the time was spent in lab work, but students also contributed to the "tree-fall" excavation. One student went on to graduate school at the University of Chicago.
- Blackney-Bailey gave guest lectures to anthropology classes at UALR and Hendrix College

### Public Service & Outreach

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Blakney-Bailey served as a consultant and Humanities Scholar for several African American cemeteries, including Haven of Rest Cemetery (Little Rock), Oakland Fraternal Cemetery (Little Rock), Hickman New Dora Cemetery (North Little Rock), Green Memorial Gardens (North Little Rock), and Ellis Cemetery (Jacksonville). She also delivered a workshop for people applying for grants from the Arkansas Humanities Council under this program (attendance, 25).
- Assistance to Schools. Blakney-Bailey participated in a career project for a student at Cato Elementary School in Sherwood, and gave a presentation on Native American artifacts to classes at Second Presbyterian Preschool in Little Rock (attendance, 28).
- Exhibits. In response to a request from "Keep Jacksonville Beautiful" and the owner of artifacts loaned for a display in the main library in Jacksonville, Blakney-Bailey wrote a summary of Arkansas prehistory to accompany the display. Blakney-Bailey and Whitlow coordinated a loan of artifacts and materials from the Toltec Mounds research station for an exhibit at the Arkansas State Capitol. Blakney-Bailey attended a meeting with the Curator of the Museum of Discovery (Little Rock) on procedures for de-accessioning artifacts that will be transferred to the Survey.
- Lectures & Presentations. Blakney-Bailey gave talks to the Jacksonville Rotary Club (attendance, 44) and the Army Corps of Engineers in Little Rock (attendance, 10).

### Service to the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

• **Programs & Presentations.** Blakney-Bailey delivered presentations at the park's Spring Equinox and Summer Solstice events (combined attendance, 57). Blakney-Bailey conducted an Artifact ID Day (attendance, 7) and throughout the year identified artifacts brought to the park by visitors (inquiries, 9). During the "tree fall" excavations, Blakney-Bailey gave tours of the work site and explained findings to park visitors (visitors, 55). Blakney-Bailey and Whitlow participated in the "Native American Foods" and "A Day in the Life of an Archeologist" programs developed by state park staff.

• Planning & Park Development. Blakney-Bailey participated in meetings with personnel with the Army Corps of Engineers, staff from the "Stream Team" (Arkansas Game and Fish), and local landowners to discuss how to prevent future erosion on Mound P. Blakney-Bailey and Bader (AmeriCorps) worked with state park interpreters to surface collect artifacts eroding out of Mound P. Blakney-Bailey reviewed content of the wayside panels that will be installed along the trails of the state park. Blakney-Bailey submitted an annual activity report to the staff at Toltec Mounds State Park. Blakney-Bailey advised the park regarding an application to the keepsafe cemetery. Blakney-Bailey and Whitlow monitored back-hoe excavations during construction of a new park superintendent's house.

### Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Programs & Presentations**. Blakney-Bailey gave talks about plans for the June Training Program to the Ouachita (Hot Springs), Arkansas River Valley (Morrilton), Central Mississippi River Valley (Jonesboro), Kadohadacho (Magnolia), and Toltec (Little Rock) Chapters of the Arkansas Archeological Society (combined attendance, 120). Blakney-Bailey presented a talk, "Geophysics at the Toltec Mounds Site," at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Eureka Springs.
- 2010 Training Program. Blakney-Bailey planned and directed the 2010 Arkansas Archeological Society/Survey Training Program, held at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, June 5–20. Preparations for the Training Program included updates to the Field and Lab Manual, and an article in the newsletter, *Field Notes*. Logistical planning involved coordinating with the property owner and course instructor to establish a location for the Site Survey seminar. Numerous publicity efforts prior to the Program included: press releases sent to all Arkansas newspapers; information provided to Arkansas State Parks for their Facebook page (which generated new membership in the Society and new visitors to the Park); presentations to archeology and anthropology classes at UALR and Hendrix College (a number of students attended the Program as a result); article interviews provided to Kim Christ, Ron Wolfe, Jamie Klein, and Mark Weatherton (all of the *Democrat-Gazette*), Leslie Newell Peacock (*Arkansas Times*), and Jeffrey Smith (*The Leader*, Jacksonville); and an information booth at the Little Rock Farmer's Market during Archeology Month (March). In addition to directing the excavations, Blakney-Bailey gave two evening lectures during the Training Program (combined attendance, 59).
- Toltec Chapter. Blakney-Bailey recruited lecturers, organized meetings, developed and distributed flyers, and advertised monthly chapter meetings through on-line and print media. She also wrote and distributed a bimonthly newsletter for the Toltec Chapter and served as owner and moderator of the Toltec Chapter AAS email listserver (208 members). To help membership, she created a space at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park for the distribution of flyers about the Society, the Toltec Chapter, and the Training Program. This included a sign-up sheet for people interested in receiving emails from the Toltec Chapter. Blakney-Bailey both personally contacted these individuals and added their emails to the listserver. Blakney-Bailey and Mallory Bader hosted an information booth about the Society, the Toltec Chapter, and the Summer Training Program at the Little Rock Farmer's Market and at Toltec Mounds State Park during Archeology Month (March). Ben Swadley (vice-president of the Arkansas Archeological Society) demonstrated flint-knapping at the Farmer's Market booth. The station hosted a volunteer lab day (attendance, 14).

### Volunteer Hours

• Volunteers contributed 7947 hours to station research projects. This total includes the Training Program.

# Parkin Archeological State Park

Dr. Jeffrey M. Mitchem, Station Archeologist E. Faye Futch, Research Assistant

The Parkin research station was established in 1990 at Parkin Archeological State Park in Cross County. The station's primary mission is to study the Parkin site and related sites in the region and to aid State Parks staff in interpreting and presenting this research to the general public. The Parkin site is a 17-acre Mississippian period American Indian village located on the banks of the St. Francis River, and lies entirely within park boundaries. It has a large flat-topped earthen mound surrounded by hundreds of buried house remnants, and was enclosed by a log palisade and moat. Excavations in the 1990s showed that the site was settled as early as A.D. 1000 and was occupied at least until 1541, when the expedition of Hernando de Soto passed through the area. Parkin is believed to be the Indian village of Casqui that was visited by the Spaniards and described in the four written accounts left by survivors and chroniclers of the expedition.

## News & Research

## Amerind Advanced Seminar on Spanish Explorations

In 2009, Dr. Mitchem was invited to co-organize and participate in a special seminar on sixteenth-century Spanish explorations in the southern United States. Titled "Native and Imperial Morphogenesis: Comparing 16th Century Entradas in the American Southwest and Southeast," the seminar would study the interactions between Spanish explorers and Native American people, and the effects of this early contact on the indigenous cultures. It grew out of a session which had been chosen as the "outstanding symposium" at the 2009 Society for American Archaeology annual meeting in Atlanta. Fifteen scholars were brought together by the Amerind Foundation to discuss and compare information on sixteenth century entradas, especially those of Hernando de Soto in the Southeast and Francisco Vázquez de Coronado in the Southwest. For five days, archeologists, historians, and Native Americans discussed such issues as conflict, climate, and the historical accounts in a remote, idyllic setting in southern Arizona.

All participants came away with new knowledge and a deeper understanding of the similarities and differences between the various Spanish expeditions and their effects. Especially useful was the bringing together of Southeastern and Southwestern researchers, who all too often are focused only on their own region of interest, with little or no interaction outside their geographical study areas. As an example, Dr. Mitchem was surprised to learn that the Vázquez de Coronado expedition consisted of over 1400 personnel, most of whom were Native Americans from northern Mexico. This was in stark contrast to the Soto expedition, which was made up almost exclusively of Spaniards and other Europeans, and was of a much smaller size. These differences, along with environmental factors, made tactics, logistical decisions, and outcomes very different in the two cases.

The seminar participants prepared papers based on their research interests, and these were critiqued and discussed by all present. The resulting revised and expanded papers will appear in a volume in the Amerind Studies in Archaeology series. The volume, edited by Clay Mathers, Dr. Mitchem, and Charles Haecker, is to be published by the University of Arizona Press.

#### **Station Operation**

Interaction with the general public is a major aim of the Parkin research station. Station personnel meet with Park visitors on a daily basis. Visitors bring artifacts or collections to be examined, and local residents often call with questions or arrange to bring in artifacts for identification. These informal contacts give Parkin station personnel the chance to highlight the value of archeology, as well as to explain how uncontrolled digging destroys irreplaceable information about the past. Many of these visitors express interest in joining the Arkansas Archeological Society. Station personnel also conduct tours of the site and laboratory for specialized groups.

While keeping up with the Parkin site research is a full-time job, Dr. Mitchem also continues to pursue other interests. He is an expert in the analysis of Spanish trade beads, and conducts research on archeological bead assemblages from Florida and other New World areas. Writers, fellow archeologists, television producers, and artifact collectors contact him for advice or artifact identification on the Soto expedition and associated Spanish artifacts. Recently, he has begun collaborating with colleagues in the Southwest who are investigating sites associated with the Vázquez de Coronado expedition of 1540–1542. This expedition was contemporary with the Soto expedition, and many of the Spanish artifacts are similar. He also continues a long-term interest in the history of archeology (especially of Florida and the southeastern U.S.), working with archival materials from the National Anthropological Archives and other repositories.

As part of her ASU studies, Ms. Futch conducts historical research on the Parkin area and Cross County. She is also carrying out ongoing local history research on area blues musicians, juke joints, schools, and businesses. This year Futch gave a presentation on the Northern Ohio School at Parkin and served on a panel on One Room School Houses at a conference titled "Profiles in Arkansas Black History: African American Schools, A Legacy to Remember," sponsored by the Black History Commission of the Arkansas History Commission.

#### Parkin Research Station Featured on AETN's Exploring Arkansas

In March, Chuck Dovish, the host of AETN's *Exploring Arkansas*, traveled to Parkin to film a segment on the Parkin site and the research that has been conducted there. Much

of the footage was devoted to Dr. Mitchem discussing the Parkin site and its historical and archeological significance in response to Mr. Dovish's questions. The displays in the Visitor Information Center at Parkin Archeological State Park were also featured, especially the popular headpot exhibit.

Part of the segment featured research assistant Faye Futch working in the Parkin station laboratory. Although the resulting segment was only about ten minutes long, it presented a succinct overview of the state park and its national and local significance. The program, which aired in May, generated several calls and email inquiries to the state park and the Parkin research station. Mr. Dovish was also impressed with the Northern Ohio Schoolhouse at Parkin, which was restored several years ago, and he plans to return to do a second segment on the school and the associated Sawdust Hill community from the early twentieth century (also located within Parkin Archeological State Park).

#### **African-American Cemetery Initiative**

Dr. Mitchem and Ms. Futch have been involved in projects at several African-American cemeteries in the Parkin vicinity. The Arkansas Humanities Council's African-American Cemetery Initiative provides grants for preservation and documentation of cemeteries in Arkansas. A



Parkin station archeologist Jeffrey M. Mitchem (left) is interviewed by program host Chuck Dovish during filming of an episode for AETN's *Exploring Arkansas* series that featured Parkin Archeological State Park.

large number of eligible cemeteries in northeast Arkansas have been largely overlooked in the grant program, so Dr. Mitchem and Ms. Futch arranged for the Arkansas Humanities Council to conduct a grant-writing workshop on the program at Parkin Archeological State Park. This was held in October, and resulted in several contacts and grant proposals for cemeteries in Cross and St. Francis Counties.

Dr. Mitchem acts as humanities scholar on these grant proposals, and Ms. Futch assists with historical research and on-site recording. Not only are site forms filled out and submitted, but the projects also yield clues to nowabandoned settlements and population centers in the region. Visits to these cemeteries by Parkin station personnel not only help local citizens trying to preserve them, but also result in knowledge of sites of long-destroyed churches and other buildings that could be valuable subjects of future historical archeology excavations. Several of the cemeteries are probably eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and plans for the coming year include preparing some nominations.



Parkin station research assistant E. Faye Futch and local resident James Haskin examine grave markers at the St. Marks/Wittsburg Cemetery.

## Parkin Station Personnel

Jeffrey M. Mitchem (Ph.D., University of Florida, 1989) is Research Station Archeologist for Parkin Archeological State Park with the Survey and Research Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. He joined the Survey in 1990 to establish the Parkin research station, following appointments at Florida State University and Louisiana State University. His specializations include late prehistoric and early historic archeology of the Southeast and the Mississippi Valley, early Spanish contact sites in the New World, ceramic technology, glass bead studies, beads of Jordan and the Levant, Florida archeology, and the history of archeology in the Southeast. He is past President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Society of Bead Researchers.

**E.** Faye Futch earned an Associate of Arts degree in 2002 from Mid-South Community College and a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies with a Minor in African-American Studies from Arkansas State University in 2005. She joined the Survey staff in 1990. She helps process artifacts in the laboratory, greets visitors to the park and station, and is involved with the African American cemetery preservation initiative. Ms. Futch is working toward a Master's degree in History, with an emphasis in Public History, at Arkansas State University. She was promoted to Research Assistant in 2008, and now pursues local history research in northeast Arkansas.

## **Professional Service**

- Mitchem served on the Survey's Personnel Committee.
- Mitchem is a member of the Editorial Review Board of the Florida Anthropological Society (*The Florida Anthropologist*), the Advisory Board for the Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education, St. Petersburg, Florida, and the Scholarly Advisory Committee of the Bead Museum in Glendale, Arizona.
- Mitchem was a consultant for exhibits under development at The Mound House, Ft. Myers, Florida and the Elliott Museum, Stuart, Florida.
- Mitchem served as peer reviewer of a grant proposal submitted to NEH and an article submitted to *Southeastern Archaeology.*

## Teaching & Higher Education

• Mitchem provided information for research to faculty and students at UALR, and to an ASU doctoral student.

## Public Service & Outreach

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Both Mitchem and Futch advised or assisted a number of groups and local citizens with cemetery preservation efforts, including Forrest City Cemetery Preservation Association, Stanley Grove Church/Stanley Grove Cemetery, Jackson-Johnson Cemetery, and Madison/Scott Bond Cemetery in St. Francis County; Strong Tower Church/McElroy Cemetery and St. Marks/Wittsburg Cemetery in Cross County. Mitchem and Futch participated in a meeting with other Survey personnel and Arkansas Humanities Council personnel at the AHC office in Little Rock regarding the Cemetery Initiative grants program. Mitchem and Futch organized and participated in an AHC-sponsored African American Cemetery Grant Workshop held at Parkin Archeological State Park.
- **Programs & Presentations.** Mitchem gave talks on archeological topics to the Wynne Rotary Club, the Trumann Lions Club, and the Men's Club of Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church in Forrest City (combined audiences, 175). Station staff joined with Survey personnel from ASU and Blytheville stations to conduct two "Artifact ID" days at Parkin (39 visitors).
- **Public Schools**. Mitchem met with coordinator Maisie Wright to discuss future collaboration with the planned KIPP school at Blytheville, to include educational archeological projects.
- **Media Events**. Mitchem wrote quotable text and provided photos for an article in the winter 2009 issue of the popular-audience magazine *American Archaeology*. Futch and Mitchem appeared in an episode of AETN's *Exploring Arkansas* about the Parkin site.

## Service to the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

- **Planning & Development**. Mitchem monitored removal of a damaged sign near Mound 1. He participated in a planning meeting for the park with Arkansas State Parks personnel. Mitchem conducted an intensive site tour and a session on the Ted Morris artworks as part of training for park interpreters. Mitchem worked with two park employees to record and photograph a collection of pottery from area sites donated by a local citizen, and to prepare the artifacts for display in an open curation area.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Mitchem directed soil screening, a site tour, and laboratory work as part of a homeschoolers camp sponsored by Parkin Archeological State Park (6 students). Mitchem organized a lecture and book signing at the park by Dr. James Cherry, author of *The Headpots of Northeast Arkansas and Southern Pemiscot County* (UA Press, 2009).

### Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Programs & Presentations**. Mitchem gave talks to the Kadohadacho (Magnolia) and Central Mississippi Valley (Jonesboro) Chapters (combined audiences, 110).
- **Training & Certification Program.** Mitchem taught a Human Osteology Seminar at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute in November (9 participants). He taught the Establishing Time Seminar and co-supervised excavations at Mound P during the 2010 Summer Training Program at Toltec Mounds.

### **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 58 hours to station projects in the field and laboratory.

# University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

Dr. George Sabo III, Station Archeologist Jerry E. Hilliard, Research Associate

The UAF station is located at the Survey coordinating office in Fayetteville, with additional office space in the Anthropology Department on the UAF campus. The station archeologist teaches in the Department of Anthropology at UAF and performs other faculty service to the Department and campus. The UAF station territory covers 12 counties and lies almost entirely within the Ozark Mountain region of northwest Arkansas; only the extreme southwestern portion dips down into the Arkansas River Valley. The archeology of the Ozarks is justly known for the excellent preservation of organic material such as basketry, textiles, woven sandals, and plant food remains in dry rock shelters. Large collections of such remains, excavated in the past from sites now inundated by reservoirs, are now housed in the UA Collection Facility awaiting modern analysis. Rock art, both painted and carved, is also found in some shelters. Station research in the last 30 years has broadened the archeological picture by focusing on ceremonial mound sites that link the Ozarks to the Mississippian and Caddo cultures. Other projects have emphasized historical sites left by pioneer Arkansans, Civil War related sites, and environmental history. The station's latest initiatives are a comprehensive study of prehistoric rock art and analysis of museum curated archeological collections from the Ozarks and Central Arkansas River Valley.

## News & Research

### **AMASDA Online**

The Survey was awarded over \$425,000 by the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department in 2006 to expand our AMASDA system of computerized archeological site and project databases and provide online access and support for AHTD archeologists and other authorized researchers including archeologists working at state and federal agencies, universities, and private sector cultural resource management firms. The project's participants are Lela Donat, Jami Lockhart, George Sabo III, John Samuelsen, and Deborah Weddle. University of Arkansas anthropology graduate students Duncan McKinnon and Leslie Walker joined the team as student assistants in 2008.

As one of the principal investigators, Sabo devotes four months per year to this project. During 2009–2010, Sabo continued to update and refine the Study Unit database, which contains summary information for all time periods, cultural phases, historic activity periods, and other recognized archeological manifestations across the state. The Study Units database is an important tool enabling users to select a region within Arkansas and a time period of interest to generate a list of recognized cultural manifestations. This list provides access to study unit definitions, identification of key sites and diagnostic artifacts, radiocarbon dates, relevant bibliographic citations, and photographic images of selected sites and artifacts.

During the previous year the project team implemented a geographic interface providing map-based access to information in the archeological site database. This year, the archeological projects database was also linked to the geographical interface. Sabo used both the text and geographical interfaces fairly extensively in pulling together site information for the rock art book project (see below), providing a good test of the system's capability to support research projects. The project team also worked with Survey Director Tom Green and State Archeologist Ann Early to review and update access policies and procedures in anticipation of opening the AMASDA online system to professional archeologists and students in the coming year.

#### **Arkansas Rock Art**

Sabo, Walker, and Hilliard completed a first draft of a book manuscript presenting the results of the NEHfunded Arkansas Rock Art project undertaken between 2003 and 2006. Project editor Deborah Sabo is currently working with the authors to finalize the manuscript while illustrations are being prepared. The University of Alabama Press has requested first review of the manuscript for publication. The manuscript provides a greatly expanded understanding of Arkansas rock art in the context of the cultural experiences of American Indian communities living in northern Arkansas during the Mississippi period.

#### **Museum Collections Research**

The UAF Station continued its inventory of the 1932 Eden's Bluff Collection, the largest collection of artifacts from any of the bluff shelters excavated by the University of Arkansas Museum under the direction of S. C. Dellinger. Jim Rees, an experienced amateur archeologist with a master's degree in Anthropology, volunteered about 120 hours of time documenting this important collection. Jim is researching various wood and river cane artifact types, including whistles and flute parts, from the collection. Eden's Bluff gives us a rare glimpse of the range of perishable artifacts used by Arkansas's prehistoric and historic American Indian residents.

#### **Spiro Perishables Project**

This project is an outgrowth of Sabo's ongoing research on materials from the Spiro Ceremonial Center in Oklahoma, and research conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Horton (Washington University, St. Louis) on perishable fabric structures (basketry, cordage, matting, etc.) from Ozark rock shelter sites that are preserved in the University of Arkansas Museum Collection. In addition to the well-known Ozark rock shelter material, the Museum Collection contains a significant assemblage of basketry and other artifacts from the Spiro Ceremonial Center, located only a few miles west of Fort Smith, Arkansas. The Museum acquired these materials in the 1930s when the infamous "Pocola Mining Company" was engaged in looting the Craig Mound at Spiro. Sabo is examining the Spiro materials (with permission from the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma) as part of a larger study undertaken by participants in the Mississippian Iconography Workshop held annually at Texas State University in San Marcos. The Workshop group, headed by Dr. James A. Brown (Northwestern University), is studying the iconography of symbolic imagery displayed on various classes of decorated objects from the Craig Mound, including embossed copper, woven fabric, engraved shell, and carved stone statuary.

Horton's main interests are to establish how and when perishable materials preserved at Spiro and at Ozark rock shelter sites were made, how they were used, and whether specific aspects of manufacture and stylistic treatment reflect the work of people representing specific artistic communities. Horton also shares Sabo's interests in learning more about cultural relationships connecting Mississippi period communities scattered across the western Ozarks with the community centered at and around the Spiro site.

The Spiro basketry examined in this project consists of a special class of rectangular containers with intricate designs woven into the lids. At the time of their disposition at Spiro, these containers were filled with embossed copper plates, marine shell beads, and other items. There are fragments of approximately 18 of these containers in the Museum Collection alone; more examples are known to exist in other museums around the country. These baskets thus represent a major category of the sacred objects interred in the Craig Mound. An interesting feature of this assemblage is that each basket is woven with a unique lid design. Another intriguing property is that their production technology and weave pattern differ from other basketry found at Spiro or at Ozark bluff shelter sites. Sabo and Horton suspect that these lidded baskets were made elsewhere and brought to Spiro. If that is the case, the most likely scenario is that they were brought as devotional offerings (possibly representing sacred bundles) when, during the early 15th century, the Spiroans were engaged in the construction of a "cosmogram" or symbolic representation of the spirit world comprised of sacred objects specially arranged and displayed at the base of what soon after became the Craig Mound.

Beyond identification of these materials as a particular category of sacred objects, the key questions we wish to answer are: Were the Spiro lidded containers manufactured locally or, as we suspect, made elsewhere and then brought to Spiro? If they were brought from elsewhere, can we determine where they were made?

The first step of the project, completed this year, was to inventory, describe, and photograph each specimen in the Museum Collection along with associated artifacts. Almost none of these materials had been adequately inventoried and examined since their accession in 1937, so basic information and identification as sacred offerings needed to be established. With the able assistance of David Halperin, a local high school student who worked as a Museum volunteer throughout the academic year, and of Ms. Leslie Walker, UA doctoral candidate in anthropology, who photographed all the materials, Sabo and Horton compiled a database of information on approximately 18 lidded baskets and hundreds of associated artifacts. The latter include plain and embossed native copper sheets and other native copper artifacts, marine shell beads and pendants, dyed and woven fiber fabrics, and sundry other items crafted of antler, bone, cane, stone, and wood. One of David Halperin's more remarkable achievements during the year was the refitting of hundreds of broken copper fragments to reconstruct complete sheets. Examination of impressions and pseudomorphs on the copper itself and associated artifactual evidence demonstrates that both unworked and embossed copper sheets were "bundled" in layers separated by cane splint lattices, then wrapped and tied in worked hide sheets. These bundles were then set atop the baskets (filled with other sacred objects) as they were arranged within the cosmographic display. Sabo and Horton are currently preparing a preliminary summary of this material that will appear in an edited volume on Mississippian regalia and sacred bundles in the Southeast.

The next step of the project, which Sabo and Horton hope to pursue in the coming year, involves the laboratory identification of trace elements, particularly strontium isotopes, from selected basketry samples to determine



Dr. Elizabeth Horton and UA doctoral candidate in anthropology Duncan McKinnon work on preserved basketry in the UA Museum Collection as part of the Spiro Perishables Project. In the background, UA doctoral candidate Leslie Walker sets up specimens for photography.

where in the Southeast the cane used to manufacture those baskets was grown. This should help us identify the production centers of these remarkable artifacts.

#### Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley

In June 2009 the Arkansas Archeological Survey was awarded a \$240,000 grant from the Collaborative Research Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities to support a three-year study of American Indian art, ritual, and social interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley. The project involves a unique collaboration between members of the Arkansas Archeological Survey, graduate students in the Department of Anthropology, and members of the Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw Indian nations of Oklahoma. The project has been designated a National Endowment for the Humanities "We the People" project. The goal of this special NEH initiative is to encourage and strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American history and culture through support of projects that explore significant events and themes in our nation's history and culture and that advance knowledge of the principles that define America.

Dr. George Sabo III is project co-director, along with Dr. Jami J. Lockhart of the Survey and Dr. Andrea Hunter of the Osage Nation of Oklahoma. Robert Cast, Bobby Gonzalez, and LaRisha Wabaunassee of the Caddo Nation are also participating along with Jean Ann Lambert and Ardina Moore of the Quapaw Nation. The project team also includes University of Arkansas Anthropology graduate students Leslie Walker, Rebecca Wiewel, and Duncan McKinnon, and Arkansas Archeological Survey archeologists Dr. Ann Early, Michael Evans, Aden Jenkins, Jerry Hilliard, Tim Mulvihill, Jared Pebworth, Larry Porter, Deborah Sabo, John Samuelsen, Dr. Leslie C. Stewart-Abernathy, and Deborah Weddle.

The 2009–2010 activities began with a project initiation meeting attended by Survey participants and Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw representatives. All participants agreed that the project represented a unique and worthwhile opportunity to expand our understanding of American Indian history in Arkansas and to increase collaboration between tribal members and archeologists in the pursuit of historical knowledge. To work toward that goal in a manner sensitive to Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw concerns regarding the sanctity of buried human remains, the participants recommended the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding to clarify procedures to be followed in the event that human remains are unearthed during any project investigations. Several project members then crafted the Memorandum, which subsequently was signed by Thomas Green (Survey Director), Brenda Shemayme Edwards (Caddo Nation Chairperson), Jim Gray (Osage Nation Principal Chief), and John Berrey (Quapaw Tribal Business Committee Chairman).

The next set of activities consisted of trips to other institutions to document major artifact collections from our study area. During May 2010, several members of our

team, including Dr. Andrea Hunter and June Carpenter from the Osage Nation and Dr. Ann Early, Jared Pebworth, and Leslie Walker from the Survey, spent a week at the National Museum of the American Indian curation facility in Suitland, Maryland, where they photographed and documented nearly 1700 items, including approximately 275 whole pottery vessels, 600 stone tools, and more than 800 other artifacts. In the meantime, David Jeane of the Survey's Southern Arkansas University research station in Magnolia made several trips to the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport to document another collection of vessels from our study area. Survey team members plus associates from all three tribes planned

UA anthropology graduate student Rebecca Wiewel documents Carden Bottoms pottery at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa. the south side of the Arkansas River, and 3PP274 along the north side of the river. These surveys detected numerous subsurface anomalies, many of which appear to be cultural features including midden deposits, refuse-filled pits, hearths, and building remains. These are precisely the kinds of features we hoped to find, for subsequent excavation to collect material remains that can be compared with, and enlarge the interpretations of, the items we've examined in museum collections. The museum collections provide only a limited perspective on past American Indian cultures in the study area, since they were taken mainly from cemeteries (thus ignoring other site contexts),



to examine another large collection of materials at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma, during August 2010. When combined with the extensive University of Arkansas Museum collections from our study area, these efforts result in a very respectable material culture database.

The third set of activities completed during this first project year consisted of geophysical surveys at three major sites in our study area. Crews for this work included Sabo, Lockhart, Evans, Hilliard, Mulvihill, Pebworth, Porter, Samuelsen, and Stewart-Abernathy from the Survey, and anthropology graduate students Duncan McKinnon, Leslie Walker, and Adam and Rebecca Wiewel. We conducted electrical resistance, magnetometry, and ground penetrating radar surveys at sites 3YE25 and 3YE347 on represent a limited range of material items (mainly ceramic vessels), and finally are the product of early 20th-century looting rather than modern scientific excavation.

Prior to the instrument surveys, we used a robotic, laser-guided total station to establish wide-area grid networks across the sites, referenced to permanent datum points, and then we collected elevation data for fine-scale topographic mapping. Back in the lab, Lockhart and Samuelsen, assisted by McKinnon and Adam Wiewel, processed the instrument data to produce site maps illustrating anomaly patterns with reference to the grid system and local landform topography. These maps will enable the project team to set excavation units directly over suspected cultural features for subsequent excavation. These follow-
up excavations are scheduled for fall and winter 2010, and will be undertaken by crews consisting of Survey, Caddo, Osage, and Quapaw project participants.

One of the most significant results of the geophysical and mapping work was the confirmation of a mound at 3PP274, thus identifying the site as a local ceremonial center. Plotted in relation to other ceremonial centers in our study area, this site definitely fills a gap in the distribution of known mound sites, greatly increasing our understanding of the larger cultural landscapes created by Mississippian communities in the Central Arkansas River Valley.

#### **NW Arkansas Site Surveys**

Hilliard conducted a canoe survey between Watts Farm and Collins Mounds (3WA1) to document the potential for riverbank archeological deposits along this stretch of the White River. Riverside photographs were taken of the valley and Indian mounds. One previously unrecorded site was documented (3WA1467).

Williams Woods is a 565 acre tract of land that was donated in the 1990s to the Ozark Highland Trails Association. Hilliard, anthropology Ph.D. candidate Leslie Walker, UAF undergraduate Teka McGlothlin, and Survey SRP personnel Mike Evans, Jared Pebworth, and Aden Jenkins assisted Acadia Roher, an Arkansas resident and student at Barnard College, NYC, in documenting historic and archeological sites on the property. Ms. Roher is documenting the sites as part of her undergraduate degree program. The UAF Station recorded eight sites (3MA404–411) and provided detailed mapping and photographic documentation for Ms. Roher's undergraduate thesis.

#### **Collections Documentation**

In 2005, at the bequest of Charles Figley, his family donated a collection of artifacts and records from White, Cleburne, Jackson, and Woodruff Counties to the Arkansas Archeological Survey. This collection totals an amazing 1228 artifacts, including 789 stone tools, 24 whole and partial pottery vessels, 265 sherds, two pipe fragments, one limestone "piasa" or cat effigy pipe, one ceramic human effigy vessel, daub, and animal bone. All the artifacts had been meticulously cataloged by Charles Figley from sites he recorded between 1964 and the early 1970s. This year, Hilliard completed the inventory and analysis of the 2005 Figley Collection, which involved updating 211 site records.

The UAF station also inventoried and analyzed over 4000 artifacts collected by Curtis Hornor in the early 1960s from the White River Valley, now Beaver Lake. Mr. Hornor donated his cataloged collection from about 50 sites to the Survey in the mid-1990s. As part of this project, Hilliard also photographed the artifacts and submitted updated site records. Matt Franklin, a University of Arkansas graduate student, assisted Hilliard in documenting a portion of the collection. Franklin, under Hilliard's tutelage, drafted a paper about the work and presented a program documenting Mr. Hornor's contribution to Arkansas archeology at a Ko-ko-çi Chapter meeting of the Arkansas Archeological Society.

## **UAF** Station Personnel

**George Sabo III** (Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1981) is Research Station Archeologist for UAF with the Survey and Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville, where he teaches one to two graduate level courses per year, serves on numerous committees, and is Assistant Director of the interdisciplinary Environmental Dynamics Program in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. He joined the Survey in 1979 after nine years of archeological research in the Upper Great Lakes and the Canadian Arctic, and a position as assistant to the State Archeologist of Michigan. His work in northwest Arkansas has ranged from mound excavations in the western Ozarks, to studies of historic pioneer farmsteads, the ethnohistory of Arkansas Indians, and development of New Media educational resources. He is the author of a popular history of Arkansas Indians (*Paths of Our Children*) and coauthor of *Arkansas: A Narrative History*.

Jerry E. Hilliard (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1980) moved to the position of UAF station research associate in 1994 after 15 years with the Survey doing public archeology, records management (he is a former Survey registrar), and research on prehistoric and historic sites in the Ozarks. His specializations include American Indian rock art and historic archeology in northwest Arkansas, especially Civil War related sites, and Fayetteville area sites. He also works closely with local volunteers from the Ko-ko-çi Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society.

## Grants, Honors & Awards

• \$240,000 from National Endowment for the Humanities for "American Indian Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley," designated a "We the People" project by NEH. Project co-principal investigator, Dr. George Sabo III. Project team member, Jerry E. Hilliard.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- Anthropology Department. Sabo taught ANTH 4813, Ethnographic Approaches to the Past, a methods class that is a graduate core course in anthropology at UAF (Spring 2010, 15 students). He team-taught (with Dr. Ann Early) an Independent Study on Caddo Ceramics (Fall 2009, 6 students). He was a member of 10 Anthropology Ph.D. committees, chairing 3 of them. He also served on one Anthropology M.A. committee for a student who completed his thesis this year (John Samuelsen).
- Environmental Dynamics. Sabo represents the Anthropology Department and serves as Assistant Director of the Environmental Dynamics interdisciplinary Ph.D. program in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences. He chaired one Environmental Dynamics Ph.D. committee.
- **Student Research Support**. Hilliard provides research and training opportunities for Anthropology graduate students, including site survey, excavation, and lab analysis instruction and support that is often a key element of successful thesis and dissertation projects.
- Sabo served as outside member of the doctoral dissertation committee for Elizabeth Horton, candidate for the Ph.D. in anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis. Horton defended her dissertation in May 2010.

## **Professional Service**

- National Endowment for the Humanities. Sabo served on a grant review panel for the NEH Collaborative Research Program. He (and four other scholars) reviewed 17 New World Archeology grant proposals, and traveled to Washington, D.C. for a meeting of the review panel.
- **Caddo Heritage Museum**. Sabo continued his service on the Caddo Heritage Museum Board of Trustees, assisting the Caddo Nation with development of policies, programs, and exhibits for their museum, located on the tribal complex near Binger, Oklahoma. A major activity this year was preparation of a three-year exhibit on Caddo cultural history for the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, which opened in September 2010.
- Sabo served on a promotion review committee for a faculty member at another university.

## Public Service & Outreach

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Hilliard serves as secretary of the Northwest Arkansas African American Heritage Association. He participated in a conservation workshop with the group, and helped them document Baldwin Cemtery. Hilliard also served as Humanities Scholar for an Arkansas Humanities Council mini-grant to Sandy Lair (Harrison, AR) for documentation of a Newton County African American family (1800s–1920s), including recording two cemeteries as archeological sites.
- Arkansas State Parks. Hilliard consulted with Steve Chrychel of Hobbs State Park and Tim Scott of Devil's Den State Park on historic and archeological cultural resources.
- **Presentations & Programs.** Hilliard gave talks to the North Arkansas Ancestor Fair Cemetery Symposium (Searcy County Historical Society), the Friends of Hobbs (at Hobbs State Park Visitors Center), the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (at Mount Comfort Church), and Shiloh Museum (with Jared Pebworth) (combined audiences, over 110). Sabo gave a talk at the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, Oklahoma (audience, 100)
- Law Enforcement. Hilliard consulted with the Washington County Sheriff's Office on an open case involving a homicide in which the UAF station provided forensic assistance.
- **Public Schools**. Hilliard presented Career Day talks on archeology at Randall Lynch School (150 students) and Ledbetter Intermediate School (150 students) in Farmington. Leslie Walker gave two talks at Old High Middle School in Bentonville (20 students), and set up a table with information about archeology, American Indians, and early Arkansas history at the school's annual literacy and social studies night (attendance, 300).
- Other Public Outreach. Hilliard assisted a Boy Scout and his parent working on requirements for the merit badge in archeology. At landowner request, Hilliard mapped and documented archeological sites in Carroll, Newton, and Washington Counties.

### Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- Ko-ko-çi Chapter. Hilliard supervised Lab volunteers, most notably Jim Rees, who worked on the Eden's Bluff collection, and Jim Cherry and Paul Knapp, who worked on the Odd Fellows collection.
- **Training & Certification Program**. Hilliard reviewed a report for a participant in the Certification Program who is working on requirements of the Society's capstone Field Archeologist Certificate. Sabo briefly visited the 2010 Training Program excavations at Toltec Mounds to collect a sample for archeomagnetic dating.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Sabo presented a talk to the Central Mississippi Valley Chapter in Jonesboro (audience, 50). Hilliard coauthored a paper presented by Society member Susan Young at the annual meeting in Eureka Springs.

#### Volunteer Hours

• Volunteers contributed approximately 150 hours to station research projects in the field and lab.

# University of Arkansas at Monticello

Dr. Marvin D. Jeter, Station Archeologist Jessica Howe, Station Assistant

The UAM research station is located on the University of Arkansas campus in Monticello, where the station archeologist teaches anthropology courses in the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences. Station territory covers seven counties in southeastern Arkansas. The eastern portion consists of landforms deposited by the ancestral Arkansas and Mississippi rivers and their tributaries and contains numerous small to moderate habitation sites and occasional mound centers of the later prehistoric and protohistoric periods. Several mound sites are mentioned in the reports of Victorian era archeologists. To the west are uplands of the West Gulf Coastal Plain, dissected by the Saline-Ouachita drainage and its tributaries. This area contains some older Archaic period sites as well as the later sequence. Among many significant sites in station territory, the small Lake Enterprise Mound is affiliated with the famous Poverty Point culture and is the oldest known Indian mound in Arkansas. At the opposite end of the time scale are the Taylor/Hollywood Plantation 1840s log house, a National Register site, and Lakeport Plantation in Chicot County, Arkansas's sole remaining pre-Civil War plantation mansion on the Mississippi Delta.

# News & Research

#### **Edward Palmer's Arkansaw Mounds**

February 2010 saw the reappearance of Dr. Jeter's long out-of-print volume *Edward Palmer's Arkansaw Mounds* in new paperback and electronic reprint editions by University of Alabama Press. The original University of Arkansas Press hardcover was published in 1990. Jeter provided a new preface for the Alabama Press reprint.

The book tells the story of Edward Palmer's work in Arkansas on behalf of the Smithsonian Institution's large-scale scientific project in the 1880s that resolved the question of who had built the prehistoric earthen mounds that formed prominent landmarks throughout the eastern United States. The 1894 final report by Cyrus Thomas laid to rest the popular theory of the day about a mysterious non-Indian race of "Mound-Builders," and proved that ancestors of the modern American Indian tribes were responsible for the mounds.

Arkansas had numerous such remains and was one of the focal areas of the Smithsonian study. Of additional significance in this piece of Arkansas cultural history was the contribution of H. J. Lewis, a Black artist then living in the Pine Bluff area who worked for Palmer, and later became a political cartoonist in Indiana.

Publication of the reprint makes available once again an important chapter in the story of Arkansas's archeological heritage, one that contributed to the mature development of prehistoric archeology throughout the eastern United States and across the continent.

#### Lake Enterprise Mound

This small mound site in southeast Ashley County, close to the Louisiana state line, has been confirmed as the oldest Indian mound in Arkansas. The site is affiliated with the famous Poverty Point culture, centered in nearby northeast Louisiana and named for the premier Poverty Point site—a massive series of concentric semicircular earthwork rings, with a large bird-effigy mound and other structures. It is one of the oldest earthworks in North America.

Excavations in the little Ashley County mound produced a large number of the characteristic "Poverty Point Objects"-baked silty clay balls thought to have been used in cookery-and also stone flakes of non-local raw materials, another typical Poverty Point trait. Jeter's fieldwork at the site in the 1990s produced a sample for radiocarbon analysis that gave a date of around 1200 B.C. from atop an early stage of mound construction. However, a date was still needed from a context indicating the time of the beginning of mound building. New funding from the Arkansas Archeological Society in 2008 allowed another sample to be dated, this time from a pit feature at the base of the mound, and results confirmed Jeter's hopes. The first stage of the Lake Enterprise Mound was built around 1260 B.C. This is around the time the Poverty Point site itself began to decline. Did the larger, centrally organized polity represented by the great earthwork at Poverty Point break up into smaller scattered groups, and if so, what may have caused the change?

#### **Drew County Courthouse Excavations**

Over several days in May, Jessica Howe began and completed an excavation on the downtown square in Monticello. Mary Farmer (Survey research station at UAPB) and Don Bragg (Arkansas Archeological Society volunteer) assisted. The purpose was to locate a portion of the foundation of the 1870 Drew County Courthouse (site 3DR318), specifically, the southeast corner of the clock tower. The crew laid out a 2 x 2 meter unit and excavated down to a solid brick layer or floor, which had an edge along the south side. They followed along the edge, opening another 1 x 1 meter unit on the eastern side, and came to a corner of the brick floor, which Howe suspects is the southeast corner of the clock tower. The excavation produced many artifacts, mostly building material such as brick, cut nails, mortar, glass, and tile. It appears as if this part of the original courthouse foundation is still intact.

#### **The Mangum Site**

Jeter continued working on a planned publication about the Mangum site, a Plaquemine culture necropolis in southwest Mississippi that was excavated in the 1960s and never fully analyzed. The site is linked archeologically to some of the most important sites in southeastern prehistory, including Etowah (Georgia) and Spiro (Oklahoma). This year Jeter visited the National Park Service's curation facility in Tallahassee, Florida where he briefly examined some of the artifacts from Mangum housed there, that were not regarded as sacred objects. (Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, special permits are required for analysis or study of sacred artifacts and grave furnishings.)

Later in the year, Dr. Vincas Steponaitis (University of North Carolina) sent Jeter copies of the unpublished field notes by the late John Cotter from 1951 test excavations at the site. With these materials in hand, significant new insights could be incorporated into the manuscript, which is working toward completion.

#### **Working with Local Corporations**

In May, a field man for a lumber company that owns hardwoods in the "batture" between the modern levees and the Mississippi River contacted Dr. Jeter about two possible mounds his workers had discovered on Big Island in Desha County. This large island is very poorly known archeologically, but was suggested by Philip Phillips, James Ford, and James Griffin in 1951, following their Lower Mississippi Valley Survey for Harvard University's Peabody Museum, as the possible location of the late 1600s Quapaw village of Tourima, which has never been found.

The gentleman indicated that other mounds had also been seen in the batture lands. He and Jeter agreed that a field visit would be made during the fall, after floodwaters



Jessica Howe stands in the excavation unit at the site of the 1870 Drew County Courthouse, taking notes on her observations.

recede and the weather cools. Station assistant Jessica Howe will visit the suspected mound locations, using GPS equipment to map them for documentation and return visits if warranted.

Representatives of another corporation, based in Crossett, contacted the station on June 2. The company owns land in Drew County through which the right-of-way for the I-69 Connector highway passes. Two sites on that land (3DR267 and 3DR268) were excavated in the Phase III mitigation stage by the Michael Baker Jr. Inc. contract firm in 2002, and after analysis, the artifacts (according to existing law) were returned to the landowners—the corporation. However, storage of archeological collections became a concern, so they inquired whether the Survey would accept this collection as a donation.

Indeed, the Survey is most happy to curate the material. Jeter made all the arrangements between the corporation and Survey Director Dr. Tom Green to process the paperwork and transport the artifacts. During the process, corporate representatives told Jeter about other possible archeological sites on their property, and agreed that Jessica Howe could come out to look them over later in the year.

### Station Curation Area and Laboratory Moved

The station has had its collections curation area, laboratory, and equipment storage in five rooms in Jeter Hall at UAM for many years, but the building, long slated for demolition, finally had to be vacated toward the end of the 2010 fiscal year. All the materials had to be transferred to the station's other existing offices on campus. Movement of the collections and equipment was completed in late May and June. The reorganization necessitates a loss of some work area for analysis and classroom activities. The old wet lab was also lost, though plans were made to convert a disused bathroom to replace it.

## UAM Station Personnel

Marvin D. Jeter (Ph.D., Arizona State University, 1977) is Research Station Archeologist for UAM with the Survey and Research Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. He was UAM station archeologist from 1978 to 1983 and returned to the post in 1989 after serving as Director of the Center for American Archeology's Kampsville Archeological Center in Illinois for several years. His work in Arkansas has focused on the late prehistoric, protohistoric, and historic/contact periods in the Lower Mississippi Valley, but he has also studied the history of archeological exploration in that region and various aspects of African-American culture in the Southeast.

Jessica Howe (B.A., Westminster College, 2005) is a native of Little Rock, Arkansas. She joined the Survey in August of 2008 after completing graduate coursework in anthropology at Southern Illinois University–Carbondale. She has been a member of the Arkansas Archeological Society since 2005, when she participated in the summer Training Program in Blytheville. She also has previous experience in Illinois, specifically at the Kincaid Mounds site in southern Illinois, and is nearing completion of her M.A. thesis on the "Chicago Method" of excavation as applied at Kincaid and other sites.

## Grants, Honors & Awards

• \$1250 from the Arkansas Archeological Society's Research Fund to Dr. Marvin Jeter for analysis of corn cobs and other plant materials from the Taylor Mounds (3DR2), and radiocarbon dates.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- Jeter taught ANTH 2223, World Prehistory (10 students) and ANTH 2203, Cultural Anthropology (16 students) at UAM during the Spring 2010 semester.
- Jeter arranged a visiting lecture for his World Prehistory class by Dr. Sandi Copeland, a paleoanthropologist who has worked at Olduvai Gorge, Ngorongoro Crater, Koobi Fora, other early hominid sites in Tanzania, Kenya, and South Africa, and at the Max Planck Institute for Human Evolution in Leipzig, Germany.
- Jeter provided informal consultation and advice to: former station assistant Robert Scott, now a doctoral student at Southern Illinois University, whose projects incorporate material from the southeast Arkansas study territory; present station assistant Jessica Howe, for her Master's thesis; and HSU station assistant Amanda Brock, working on a Master's thesis for University of Memphis.
- Jeter serves on the UAM Museum Committee. He completed revised and updated notes for the Museum's teaching set of fossil hominid casts.

## **Professional Service**

- Jeter consulted with Dr. Randal Cox (University of Memphis), Dr. Don Bragg (USDA Forest Service), and John Miller (Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department).
- Jeter hosted a field tour of sites in the southeast Arkansas Delta lands and in the Saline River Valley for colleagues including former UAM station assistant Dr. Henry S. McKelway and his assistant Grant Day, and Eric Mills (archeologist with the Arkansas National Guard).

## Public Service & Outreach

- Archeological Site Conservation. Jeter continued working with Dr. Curtis Merrell of the Bayou Bartholomew Alliance on the possibility of an eventual donation of the Taylor Log House (c. 1844) for conservation/preservation purposes. He also continued consultations with The Archaeological Conservancy regarding a possible acquisition of the Taylor Mounds prehistoric site.
- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Jeter served as Humanities Scholar for mini-grant proposals to the Arkansas Humanities Council for the Carlock II Cemetery Association in Ashley County, and for the Campground Cemetery Association in Drew County. At the time of this report, the Carlock II grant had been awarded. Howe mapped and surveyed the Campground Cemetery.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Dr. Jeter was invited to present a talk on "Human Evolution, 150 Years after Darwin's *Origin*" at the University of Louisiana–Monroe as part of their observation of the 150th anniversary of publication of Darwin's *Origin of Species* (audience, 80). Jessica Howe gave a talk on the Isgrig site to the Little Rock chapter of the Questers international study group, and used Dr. Jeter's PowerPoint presentation on the station's "Borderlands" project for a talk in Rison (Cleveland County). Howe participated in a Cub Scout day camp and a Cub Scout meeting, teaching the Scouts about archeology.

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Tunican Chapter**. Jeter and Howe work with the Southeast Arkansas Tunican Chapter of the Society. Jeter advises members on projects and activities and serves as Corresponding Secretary and Program Chair. Howe serves as Treasurer and assists with event planning, including a tour of Louisiana mound sites. Jeter gave two programs at regular Chapter meetings, including one "outreach" program on "Archeology in the Borderlands" held at the Dallas County Museum in Fordyce; at the latter meeting, Amanda Brock (HSU research station), Mary Farmer (UAPB research station), and David Jeane (SAU research station) assisted with the presentation (combined audiences, 64). Jeter wrote press releases advertising Chapter events, and supplied newspaper and radio interviews for the Archeology Month (March) outreach meeting. He provided information for Tunican Chapter member Hope Bragg, who started a new electronic newsletter, *The Tunican*.
- **Training & Certification Program**. Jessica Howe worked as a field supervisor during the annual Training Program at Toltec Mounds. She also taught the Site Survey Seminar during the Program.

### Volunteer Hours

• Volunteers contributed 97 hours to field work, laboratory projects, and moving the station collections and equipment in advance of demolition of Jeter Hall.

# University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Dr. John House, Station Archeologist Mary V. Farmer, Station Assistant (HALF-TIME)

The Pine Bluff research station is located on the UAPB campus. The station archeologist teaches courses in the UAPB Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences. The station is responsible for the archeological resources of eight counties of east-central Arkansas, extending from Little Rock to the Mississippi River. This territory encompasses portions of diverse physiographic regions including the Delta, the Gulf Coastal Plain, and the Ouachita Mountains. The archeological heritage of the area includes sites representing the entire temporal sequence, from the earliest Paleoindians at about 11,500 B.C., through Colonial and Historic Arkansas. The best-known site in station territory is Menard-Hodges in the Osotouy Unit of Arkansas Post National Memorial. Menard-Hodges is part of a complex of sites thought to include the Quapaw village of Osotouy and the earliest Arkansas Post, which was the first European settlement in what became France's Louisiana colony.

# News & Research

#### **Fourche Island**

The Thibault Plantation locality adjacent to the Little Rock Port Industrial Park in Pulaski County continued to be the UAPB Station's principal research focus in 2009–10. This activity is part of the Survey's ongoing response to accelerating impacts on cultural resources from residential, commercial, and industrial development in the Little Rock area. In the 1870s and 80s, plantation owner J. K. Thibault excavated pottery vessels from a number of small mounds on his farm on Fourche Island in the Arkansas River floodplain south of Little Rock. Portions of the collection were donated and loaned to the Smithsonian Institution in 1883 and were among the materials reported by W. H. Holmes in his 1886 article "Ancient Pottery of the Mississippi Valley" in the 4th Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology.

From fall 2007 through spring 2009 the Survey conducted fieldwork on both the Thibault site (3PU1) and the adjacent Isgrig site (3PU15). This work included surface reconnaissance, archeogeophysical remote sensing, and sustained excavations, carried out with the assistance of numerous Arkansas Archeological Society members and other volunteers. Fall 2008 excavations on the north end of the Isgrig site, owned by Welspun Tubular, LLC, resulted in identification and excavation of prehistoric Native American graves and cultural features dating between A.D. 1400 and 1600. Work on the portion of the Isgrig site lying south of Thibault Road ("Isgrig South") ensued in spring 2009. This work involved extensive plowzone stripping and removal of additional Native American graves.

In August 2009, discussion with Welspun Pipes, Inc. resulted in agreement that the Survey would resume excavations on the north end of the Isgrig site where excavations had been conducted in 2008. Welspun requested that we attempt to remove any remaining burials in the event that the company might need to use the location for industrial facilities. Excavation began in September under the direction of House and UAM station assistant Jessica Howe, and continued through May 2010. Eleven additional Survey personnel participated in this work, along with 34 Arkansas Archeological Society members and other volunteers who collectively contributed 858 hours to the project in the field and laboratory.

The focus of the 2009–10 work on the Welspun Tract at Isgrig was recovery of burials. Nine graves containing remains of ten human individuals were excavated along with grave goods including pottery vessels and, in one grave, a cluster of 15 arrow points that may represent a quiver of arrows. These nine graves, along with two graves excavated in 2008, constitute a discrete late prehistoric cemetery. Excavation of Native American graves at the Isgrig site were authorized by a permit issued by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and carried out in consultation with the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma (see below). Human remains from both the Welspun Tract and Isgrig South have been transferred to the Osteology Laboratory, Department of Anthropology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and are currently undergoing osteological study under the direction of Professor Jerome C. Rose. (Samples of charred residue from pottery vessels recovered from three of the graves were submitted for dating to Beta Analytic, Miami Florida, in July 2010. These returned radiocarbon dates calibrated to the A.D. 1400s.)

Additional work conducted on the Welspun Tract at Isgrig included controlled surface collection on a newly cultivated area south of the driveway to the metal shop



UAM station assistant Jessica Howe and Arkansas Archeological Society member Dr. Don Bragg of Monticello (a research scientist with the USDA Forest Service) excavate a prehistoric cultural feature on the Welspun Tract at the Isgrig site last fall.

In August, in the interval between conclusion of the work at Isgrig South and the resumption of work on the Welspun Tract site, House returned to the Thibault site to resume excavation of a 2008 test pit in a heavily wooded tract that has come to be designated the "Paw Paw Woods." A Thibault family tradition refers to the presence of "slave graves" in a wooded area somewhere on the former plantation. In addition to revealing stratigraphy at the edge of a small prehistoric mound, the 2008 Paw Paw Woods test pit had intersected a historic period intrusion containing bits of unidentified rusted iron artifacts. Resuming excavation in the test pit in 2009, House encountered human remains at the bottom of the historic feature at a depth of 1.2 meters. Associated with the human remains were nails and coffin screws dated to the first decade of the twentieth century. The grave was left undisturbed and backfilled after recording. It is likely that this grave is part of an African American cemetery on the Thibault Plantation referred to in a 1943 Arkansas Gazette feature article on Fourche

Island. According to the article, the cemetery includes the graves of three former slaves who had bought their freedom.

In addition to participating in fieldwork at Isgrig and Thibault, volunteers worked in the UAPB station laboratory, cleaning and restoring vessels from Isgrig under the direction of Mary Farmer. (Volunteers at Saturday lab days at the Toltec Station also participated in the laboratory processing of the Isgrig collections.)

On the documentary front, Farmer has continued to conduct research on the nineteenth century Thibault plantation. She examined the memoir of Captain John Palliser, who visited with the Keatts and Thibault families on Fourche Island in the 1850s during the course of his travels in America.

Isgrig fieldwork, laboratory work, and special analyses are being supported by a grant from Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council, administered by the Arkansas Department of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

#### The Menard Locality

Since 1997 the Menard Locality—at the southern tip of the Little Prairie in Arkansas County—has been an important focus of research for the UAPB station. This area is believed to contain the late seventeenth century Quapaw village of Osotouy and the first Arkansas Post, established by Henri de Tonti in 1686. In 1997 and 1998, the Arkansas Archeological Survey and Arkansas Archeological Society excavated at the Menard-Hodges site and associated archeological sites in the locality during the annual Society/Survey Training Programs. In 1997 the U.S. Congress authorized and funded creation of an Osotouy unit of Arkansas Post National Memorial, encompassing the Archaeological Conservancy's Menard-Hodges archeological preserve and the outlying Lake Dumond site.

The 1997–98 work at Menard-Hodges and Lake Dumond included collection of hundreds of bulk samples of sediment that were processed by water flotation. In many cases, entire cultural feature contents were floated. Through 2009–10, House continued size-grading and sorting flotation heavy fractions from the 1997 excavations in the plaza area of the Menard-Hodges site. Standard procedures for size grading heavy fractions were developed by House in consultation with Gayle Fritz (University of Washington, St. Louis). In fall 2009 House began coding the specimens from the 1997 plaza excavation for database entry.

#### Wallace Bottom

In 1998, a Society/Survey team discovered the Wallace Bottom site in the floodplain adjacent to the Menard-Hodges site on a tract recently acquired by White River National Wildlife Refuge. The collection made at that time included both Native American and French Colonial material culture items. The assemblages appeared to date to the early Colonial period, corresponding to the interval between the Marquette-Joliet voyage of 1673 and the destruction of the first Arkansas Post in 1749.

Following the 1998 discovery, the UAPB station carried out field studies at Wallace Bottom in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2006. These projects involved geophysical mapping, systematic surface collection in the cultivated field, systematic bucket auger sampling on the wooded lake bank, and small-scale excavations. The Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma sponsored the 2003–04 work as part of the "Cooperation Then and Now" project funded by a National Park Service tribal historic preservation grant. Research results at Wallace Bottom so far support identifying the site with the late 1600s Quapaw village of Osotouy and the 1719–49 French Arkansas Post.

Since 2006, the emphasis in Wallace Bottom research has turned to analysis and writing. House presented a paper titled "Material Culture of the Downstream People" at the Kincaid Field Conference in Metropolis, Illinois on 25 July. The paper summarized results from preliminary analyses of Native American materials from the 2001–06 Wallace Bottom field studies and assessed the proposition that the materials represent Colonial era Quapaws



Arrow points from the Wallace Bottom site.

("Downstream People" is a translation of "O-gah-pah," the Quapaws' traditional name for themselves.) Following up the Kincaid paper, House began tabulating in detail both Native and European materials from cultural features and other contexts excavated at Wallace Bottom.

#### The Madonia Collection

In 2009–10, the UAPB station continued preparing the Madonia Collection for curation. This large and meticulously documented prehistoric artifact collection was donated to the Arkansas Archeological Survey in 2006 by long-time Arkansas Archeological Society member Joe Madonia of Helena. The collection is the fruit of more than 40 years of avocational archeology in Phillips and adjacent counties. The Survey's Toltec station collaborated in the curation effort by hosting a number of "Lab Days" in which volunteers numbered specimens under the direction of Toltec station archeologist Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey and station assistant Marilyn Whitlow. The Madonia Collection will be added to the UAPB station's research collections where it will be an irreplaceable resource for archeological studies for generations to come.

#### **The Dobrovich Site**

In 2007, House collaborated with Natural Resources Conservation Service archeologist John Riggs in fieldwork at the Dobrovich site near Slovak in Prairie County. This was in response to plans by the landowners, Frank and George Dobrovich, to construct a reservoir that would affect the site. Survey personnel and volunteers recorded 70 cultural features including post holes, refuse-filled pits, and a single burial, which was excavated in March 2008 under a permit issued by the Arkansas Historic Preservation program. In April 2008, representatives of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma reburied the remains in a nearby wooded area in a traditional ceremony.

In 2008, House was awarded a grant from the Society's Archeological Research Fund for radiocarbon dating of charcoal samples from two cultural features excavated at the Dobrovich site in 2007. The charcoal samples were dated by Beta Analytic of Miami, Florida.

The more surprising of the two results was on sample Beta-263533, consisting of charcoal from a pit feature (Feature 56) that contained almost no material culture but yielded some botanical material in the float. The radiocarbon assay calibrates to 290–350 B.C. and 50–220 B.C. at the 2-sigma level. This corresponds to the Early Woodland (or Tchula) interval in the prehistoric sequence. Potential Early Woodland artifact classes from Dobrovich include Gary and other stemmed dart points, Withers Fabric Impressed, and grog-and-sand-tempered Baytown Plain *var. Thomas* pottery. This date is significant because it definitively shows an occupation in the Bayou Meto-Grand Prairie locality during the Early Woodland period.

The other date (Beta-263532) is on charcoal from a post hole (Feature 61) that contained a leached shell-tempered sherd. It calibrates to A.D. 1030–1220 at the 2-sigma level. This date range corresponds to the transition from the Late Woodland or Coles Creek period (epitomized by the major archeological component at Toltec Mounds) to the Early Mississippi period. The latter time interval is poorly known in the Arkansas River Lowland and Grand Prairie regions.

#### **Mounds at Helena**

In April, House joined UAM station assistant Jessica Howe and Helena-West Helena Alderman Jay Hallowell in efforts to preserve archeological sites and potentially further heritage tourism in the vicinity of Helena. This included meeting with Helena Crossing (3PH11) landowner David Solomon in connection with ongoing earthmoving near Mound C on that site. James Ford of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, conducted excavations of 2000-year-old Hopewellian tombs in mounds at Helena Crossing in 1960. House and Howe also visited and made observations at a possible unrecorded Hopewellian mound in a wooded area of Crowley's Ridge near downtown Helena.

#### **Other Research & Fieldwork**

In February, House visited Palarm Cemetery (3PU567) near Maumelle in Pulaski County to prepare a sketch map and make observations on the physical condition of the cemetery to assist Dr. Jami Lockhart, director of archaeogeophysical remote sensing applications for the Survey, prior to a search for possible unmarked graves outside the known cemetery boundaries. Marked graves in Palarm Cemetery date from 1837 to 1877, representing the era of pioneer settlement in Pulaski County.

On March 13, Farmer joined UAM station archeologist Marvin Jeter, and station assistants David Jeane (SAU) and Amanda Brock (HSU) at the Dallas County Museum in Fordyce for an informal conference on common research interests in the Saline River "Borderlands" encompassing portions of UAM, UAPB, SAU, and HSU station territories.

On May 28, Farmer worked with UAM station assistant Jessica Howe and Society member Don Bragg and other volunteers in excavations at the location of the former Drew County Courthouse in the Monticello town square. The dig resulted in identification of a corner of the early 1900s clock tower which was part of the original courthouse.

## **UAPB** Station Personnel

John H. House (Ph.D., Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1991) is Research Station Archeologist for UAPB with the Survey and Research Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. He has been involved with Arkansas archeology since he was a high school student in Mountain Home, and attended the first ever Arkansas Archeological Society Training Program. House joined the Survey in 1978 as an assistant at the UAPB station. He served as station archeologist at UAM from 1983 to 1985, and again during 1988, before returning to UAPB. His interests include North American prehistory, material culture studies, and the archeology of colonial era Native Americans.

Mary Farmer returned to the Survey in a half-time position as UAPB station assistant in 1999 after a five-year hiatus. She had retired from her previous position as UAPB station secretary in 1994 after 17 years of service. She is a life member of the Arkansas Archeological Society and veteran of the Training Program. She has studied historic and prehistoric sites in Arkansas over many years, with special interests in historic domestic artifacts and prehistoric ceramics.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- House taught SOCI 2330, Introduction to Anthropology at UAPB during the Fall 2009 (46 students) and Spring 2010 (40 students) semesters.
- House is a member of the doctoral committee for a student (Robert Scott) in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.
- House was a judge for Social and Behavioral Science exhibits in the Regional Science Fair on the UAPB campus.

## **Professional Service**

• House is collaborating with Dr. Jerome C. Rose, Professor of Anthropology at UAF, and graduate student Andrew LoPinto, in their ongoing analysis of human remains recovered from the Isgrig site excavations in 2009 and 2010.

## Public Service & Outreach

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. House continued his participation in the Initiative by visiting and preparing site forms for a number of cemeteries, and by serving as Humanities Scholar on projects funded by the Arkansas Humanities Council. The cemeteries include: Watterseka Cemetery (3JE429), Stewart Chapel Cemetery (3JE478), Belmont Cemetery (3JE483), Mount Olive Cemetery (3JE485), McEwen Cemetery (3AR226), Mount Zion Cemetery (3LN664), Asbury Cemetery (3PH324), Gamble Cemetery (3PH325). House attended a meeting at Marvell with the Tate Community Development Corporation regarding Asbury and Gamble cemeteries. He attended a meeting in Little Rock of Survey staff and Arkansas Humanities Council staff about the grant program.
- Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. At the request of Sarah Koeppel, Archeologist for the Vicksburg District Army Corps of Engineers, Dr. House conducted a preliminary archeological assessment of proposed improvements to water control structures at the Wrape Plantation Unit of Bayou Meto Wildlife Management area in Jefferson County. It was determined that a cultural resources survey is required.
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**. House conducted a cultural resources survey of a projected barge dock facility at the Welspun Pipe Mill on the Arkansas River in Pulaski County, in conjunction with Welspun's application to USACE for a wetlands construction permit.
- Assistance to Museums. House continued to serve on the Pine Bluff-Jefferson County Historical Museum's Acquisitions Committee. He presented a program at the Museum during Archeology Month. Farmer assisted Plantation Agriculture Museum State Park in Scott with development of an exhibit.
- **Programs & Presentations**. During Archeology Month, Mary Farmer joined UAM station assistant Jessica Howe in assisting Arkansas Archeological Society member Hope Bragg with an archeology-themed Cub Scout rally in Monticello. Farmer prepared replicas of atl atls and darts to use in the activity. House presented programs at the Pine Bluff-Jefferson County Historical Museum (audience, 30), and gave talks in two history classes at Pine Bluff High School (50 students). House led a tour of the Menard-Hodges site for 25 participants in The Archaeological Conservancy's popular tour of sites in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

• **Consultations**. House consulted with the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma's cultural resources director Carrie Wilson on issues related to human burials encountered during the Isgrig/Welspun excavations.

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Programs & Presentations**. House gave a talk to the Central Mississippi Valley Chapter in Jonesboro (audience, 50). Farmer presented a paper at the Society's 2009 annual meeting in Eureka Springs.
- **Training & Certification Program**. House taught the Basic Excavation seminar during the June 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park (19 participants) and presented an evening lecture (audience, 30). Farmer served on the Dig Planning Committee and as Camp Boss.

## **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 858 hours to station research projects in the field and laboratory.

# University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

Mr. Timothy S. Mulvihill, Station Archeologist

The UAFS research station was established in 2005 at the request of the University of Arkansas Fort Smith campus. The University purchased the Drennen-Scott House, 1838 home of the City of Van Buren founder, businessman, and Indian Agent John Drennen, with plans to use the property as a museum and training center for their Historical Interpretation degree program. The station's responsibilities include archeological investigations at the Drennen-Scott House and other assistance to the program at UAFS, working with the Ark-Homa Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society and other outreach activities in the Fort Smith area, and archeological research in the Arkansas River Valley between Fort Smith and Clarksville in cooperation with the UAF and WRI stations.

## News & Research

#### **Mapping and Scanning Projects**

Several new mapping projects were initiated or completed during the past year. Many of these projects were facilitated by the purchase of a Topcon Imaging Station in December of 2009, which functions both as a robotic total station with reflectorless capabilities and as a scanner. The imaging station was purchased with stimulus money.

One new project involved re-mapping of the Toltec Mounds site (3LN42). A good map of the site existed, but not in a digital format to which new features could easily be added. Elevation shots were taken on a much finer scale to determine if any unidentified mound remnants or other features not easily visible existed at the site. Mulvihill spent several weeks at the Toltec site collecting data for the new map and also assisting with the layout of the excavation units for the Arkansas Archeological Society's Training Program to be held in June. Most of the southern half of the site has now been remapped and work will continue on the north half in the coming year.

A new map of the Eaker site (3MS105) was finished during the year, at the request of the Blytheville station. Elevation data were collected on closely spaced transects with the hope of finding remnants of any large features that might have once existed. The new data were added to previously collected data for more complete coverage of the site. At the same time, a 20 x 20 meter grid of wooden stakes was set out on the site in preparation for an upcoming geophysical survey.

A map was also completed of the nearby Mooney Cemetery site (3MS59). This site had not previously been mapped. Currently, two mounds are located on the site, one that is mostly intact because of a historic cemetery located on top, and another which has been partially leveled by farming activities. Measuring elevations on 5-meter interval transects with the Imaging Station in robotic mode revealed the original orientation of the eroded mound, which was not discernible by other techniques.

With the assistance of Larry Porter (WRI station), the Logan Eddy site (3LO208) in Logan County was mapped for the first time. The site consists of three small mounds and the site plan map will be an important addition to the state site files.

Mulvihill and Michael Evans (Survey CO) also began to use the Topcon IS to perform 3D scans of bluff shelters that are also rock art sites. This provides a highly detailed record of the natural environment of the rock art sites. The site's microtopography is recorded in thousands of closely spaced plot points that are overlain by panoramic photos, resulting in a "virtual reality" 3D image.

#### **Drennen-Scott House Project**

Archeological research at the Drennen-Scott House continued in conjunction with the Phase II and III rehabilitation work on the property. Most of the archeological fieldwork in the past year involved monitoring any ground disturbance necessary during the construction. Phase III rehabilitation work was completed near the end of this fiscal year, and the Drennen-Scott House will soon be open to the public. In June 2010 Mulvihill wrote a summary of the archeology completed during the rehabilitation for the project architect. Archeological research will continue on the property as part of the long-term master plan for the site.

In the backyard, rehabilitation plans called for the construction of a flagstone patio. Previously, two test units indicated that most of this area had been heavily disturbed during the addition of a room onto the back of the house



Tim Mulvihill using the Topcon Imaging Station to scan a rock art site.

in the early 1970s. Any earlier archeological deposits had been stripped away at that time. Mulvihill monitored further removal of fill needed for the construction of the patio and to aid in drainage for the backyard. Additionally, a new sprinkler/irrigation system was installed over a large portion of the property along with new landscaping. Mulvihill monitored much of the digging associated with this part of the project, especially in areas previously determined as likely to have intact archeological deposits. In addition to the fieldwork at the Drennen-Scott house, lab work on the previously excavated materials continued throughout the year when time permitted.

#### **Pruitt Site Investigations**

Excavations at the Pruitt site (3LO769) in Logan County continued over approximately five weeks during the last half of 2009. This project began in 2008 as an effort to salvage information from the site before part of it was destroyed by the construction of a cattle pond. Several test units were excavated in the midden on the eastern portion of the site. Processing of materials excavated from the site continued throughout the year. More detailed mapping of the site in early 2010 used the new Topcon Imaging Station. Further investigations are planned on other portions of this site in the future, but not until the current work has all been processed and a report written.

#### **Cavanaugh Mound Project**

During February of 2010, a project was initiated at the Cavanaugh Mound site in Fort Smith. In 2005 the site was purchased by The Archaeological Conservancy, a national non-profit organization that acquires and preserves significant archeological sites. Cavanaugh Mound is located in south Fort Smith and has survived the city expansion around it with relatively little disturbance. However, during the 1970s, a large portion of the eastern side of the mound was removed, leaving a steep vertical face that has been eroding ever since. Little is known about the mound, but it is thought to have been constructed during the Mississippi time period. There is no record of any artifacts ever being found within the mound fill, although at least two tunnels have been dug into the mound. The aim of the cur-



Tim Mulvihill and others clearing brush at the Cavanaugh Mound in Fort Smith.

rent project is to clear the mound of brush and trees so that it can be stabilized, and to record the eroding east face of the mound in order to learn more about the mound construction. Mulvihill worked with members of the Arkansas Archeological Society, other employees of the Survey, and the Southeast Regional office of the Archaeological Conservancy to start clean-up of the mound in March. Many bags of trash and several loads of brush and trees were removed from the site. The City of Fort Smith helped with the hauling of brush from the site as well. The Fort Smith Chamber of Commerce desires eventually to promote the mound as one of the unique features of the community. A good start was made on clearing away of debris and brush at the mound, and work will continue in the fall of 2010.

#### **Other Research**

At various times during the year, Mulvihill assisted other Survey stations with ongoing projects. These included

- the Looney Tavern excavations in Randolph County, a Sponsored Research project on behalf of Black River Technical College
- salvage excavations at the Isgrig site near the Little Rock port in Pulaski County (UAPB station territory)
- grid layout for geophysical survey at the Carden Bottoms site (3YE25) in Yell County for the NEH grantfunded "Central Arkansas River Valley" project
- grid layout and mapping at 3PP274 in WRI station territory
- mapping at a land-leveled site (3CY91) in ASU station territory.

## Station Personnel

Timothy S. Mulvihill (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1996) joined the Survey in 1989 as station assistant at ASU, then moved to the Parkin research station, where he was station assistant from 1991–2005. In late spring of 2005, Mulvihill moved to Fort Smith to establish the new UAFS research station. His interests include Woodland and Mississippian period archeology, site survey methodologies, and mapping.

## Public Service & Outreach

- **Programs & Presentations**. Mulvihill gave a talk to the McAlester Chapter of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society (audience, 10). He participated in Career Day activities at Darby Junior High School in Fort Smith (50 students) and Alma Middle School in Alma (90 students). A Darby Junior High School student "shadowed" him during the Fall 2009 semester.
- **Consultations**. Mulvihill and George Sabo (UAF station archeologist) assisted the Fort Smith Museum of History with identification of prehistoric artifacts in their collections. Mulvihill researched a historical question concerning the Arkansas/Oklahoma border for the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission.
- **Public Archeology.** Mulvihill identified artifacts for 19 people, and made seven site visits in response to requests from the public throughout the year.

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- Ark-Homa Chapter. Mulvihill and the UAFS station continuted to assist the Ark-Homa Chapter by making arrangements for monthly meetings, inviting guest speakers, and providing information to UAFS for press releases. Mulvihill served as Treasurer for the Chapter. He was interviewed on a morning radio show to promote the Chapter meeting during Archeology Month. The station hosted monthly meetings and provided lab and fieldwork opportunities.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Mulvihill gave a talk to the Arkansas River Valley Chapter on Petit Jean Mountain (audience, 9).
- **Training & Certification Program**. Mulvihill participated in the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds, operating the total station at the Mound D excavation area and assisting with the FSN log and photography.

## **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 64 hours to station research projects in the field and lab.

# Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, Morrilton

Dr. Leslie (Skip) Stewart-Abernathy, Station Archeologist Larry Porter, Station Assistant Theresa Johnson, Station Assistant (HALF-TIME) Tammie Evans & Carlos Ochoa, AmeriCorps Interns

The WRI research station is located on the campus of the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, on Petit Jean Mountain. The Institute was established in 2005 as an educational and conference center of the University of Arkansas System. "The Rockefeller Institute's mission is to develop diverse programs that nurture ideas, policies and activities to make life better in Arkansas." The WRI research station of the Survey is responsible for archeological resources in 11 counties of mountainous west-central Arkansas, including the southern fringe of the Ozarks (the Boston Mountains) and a large portion of the Ouachitas. The two mountain ranges incorporate varied upland and river valley environments and are separated by the Arkansas River corridor. Examples of important archeological sites in the station area range from rock shelters and rock art sites—including Indian Rock House in Van Buren County and numerous pictographs and petroglyphs at Petit Jean State Park in Conway County that are listed on the National Register—to finely made prehistoric ceramics from Carden Bottom in Yell County—to the early 19th century town of Cadron in Faulkner County, also on the National Register of Historic Places.

## News & Research

#### Petit Jean Mountain & Vicinity

The Station and the Arkansas River Valley Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society continued to pursue a variety of research and support projects on Petit Jean Mountain and vicinity. These included documentation visits and research on rock art sites and historic farmsteads.

Stewart-Abernathy also conducted oral-history interviews (with digital audio-taped recordings) with Eddy George Westphal and Mrs. Ellen Sue Turner, professional archeologist in Texas and niece of Dr. T. W. Hardison who contributed so much to Petit Jean Mountain life and history. This was part of an ongoing oral history project about life on Petit Jean Mountain.

Work continued on the report resulting from the Total Station mapping of the site of Civilian Conservation Corps Camp No. 1781 within Petit Jean State Park. This installation, staffed by World War I veterans, built all the original features at the Park between 1933 and 1942. The overall map and the detail maps of evidence for each building were completed by AmeriCorps intern Carlos Ochoa and passed to Park personnel, along with the raw coordinate data. Stewart-Abernathy visited another site where a concrete pad for a building in the Maintenance area likely dates to the CCC era. This has been a timely project, as State Parks plans to put up interpretive signs for CCC Camp 1781. Station staff and Arkansas Archeological Society member Don Higgins also conducted fieldwork and prepared a Total Station map of the Petit Jean Cemetery and adjacent Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, with over 1000 grave markers altogether. This was carried out with the cooperation and help of the Petit Jean Cemetery Association, whose members flagged and numbered each marker after a training and planning session at the WRI Teaching Barn.

The WRI Station and the Arkansas River Valley Chapter also continued to work on the Cherokee project. Although fieldwork was minimal, Stewart-Abernathy responded to numerous enquiries, including one from a descendant of Cherokee leader Glass, who lived north of Atkins in Pope County.

#### **Carden Bottom Project, Yell County**

After the 2009 Society Training Program, which was hosted by WRI, the station was kept busy with follow-up tasks and related research. The Training Program had concentrated on intensive excavation of features at 3YE347, where European trade goods had previously been found. In addition to logistical tasks, such as returning equipment to other stations, and organizing records, Stewart-Abernathy prepared talks about the project for presentation to Archeological Society chapters, to the Society's annual statewide meeting, and to the numerous AmeriCorps volunteers at WRI who had participated in the water screening. Arkansas River Valley Chapter members worked on material from the excavations during Lab Days throughout the fall and winter. Stewart-Abernathy also prepared brief reports for the Society's newsletter Field Notes and for the Petit Jean Mountainaire. Posters about the project, prepared by Terry Johnson, were displayed at the Society's annual meeting, and donated for the planned Carden Bottom gallery at the WRI campus. Some cuprous items from the excavation were selected for free pXRF analysis at the 2010 meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, and some of the specimens were identified as European brass. In May the 1993 and 2009 collections from 3YE347



were transferred to Fayetteville for further analysis as part of the NEH-funded "Central Arkansas River Valley" project.

In the early fall of 2009 the Survey was awarded a large grant by National Endowment for the Humanities to study art styles and social identity in the Central Arkansas River Valley. Principal investigators are Dr. George Sabo (UAF station) and Dr. Jami Lockhart (Geophysical Specialist) at the Survey, and Dr. Andrea Hunter (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Osage Nation). Carden Bottom is the source of a wide array of finely made ceramics that were looted out of Native American graves in early decades of the 20th century. Much of this pottery now resides in museum collections, including a large and important collection at the University of Arkansas that has never been properly studied. This project, a cooperative effort by the Survey, the Osage, the Caddo, and other Native American tribes, seeks to contextualize the looted pots, and nearby rock art that was studied in a previous NEH-funded project, by conducting new scientific excavations in the Carden Bottom area. The "proof of concept" was provided by the excavations of Feature 10 at 3YE347 during last year's Training Program. Stewart-Abernathy and Porter attended the first team meeting in October in Fayetteville, where Stewart-Abernathy presented a summary of previous Carden Bottom fieldwork. Additional sites are now being examined through remote sensing, such as 3YE25 in March and 3PP274 in May. WRI station staff continue to monitor conditions at sites and make arrangements with landowners/tenants so that fieldwork can be conducted without interfering with the farmers' schedules.

#### Logan County Research

Larry Porter continued to monitor 3LO226, an important Woodland period site that is currently threatened by Arkansas River Valley Chapter members (from left) Bob Emerson, Zach Shaddon, Don Higgins, and Alan Smith assist in laying out the 20m square data collection units for geophysical prospecting, 8 March, 2010, at 3YE25.

severe erosion. He is working on a report of 2009 excavations undertaken in response to unusual flooding, which removed up to four feet of the creek bank at the edge of the site. With support of an Archeological Research Fund grant from the Arkansas Archeological Society, Porter submitted two AMS radiocarbon samples from the site to Beta Analytic, Inc. These samples produced surprisingly consistent and early dates. The 2-sigma calibrated result for each sample was 1000–820 BCE. Porter also prepared a summary article on the project that was published in *Field Notes*.

Porter is also assisting a project to restore the Chism House (3LO956), a two-story central open passage (dogtrot) log house built by the Chism family in the 1840s in Chismville, a few miles north of Booneville in Logan Co. The structure is on the National Register but is in poor condition. The restoration is being privately funded by the landowner, Bryce Reveley, and her husband, Alan Caspi. Directing the actual restoration work is Paul Glidewell, who has many years of experience building and restoring log houses. Porter has been working closely with the owners and Mr. Glidewell, providing additional photographic documentation of the take-down process, and arranging for remote sensing by the Survey's Jami Lockhart, followed by brief test excavations of subsurface anomalies beginning in July 2010. Plans are to have the house rebuilt, using as many of the original logs and timbers as possible, by sometime in late fall 2010.



The historic Stephen Chism House in Logan County before restoration.

### **African American Cemeteries**

Station staff continued heavy involvement with the Arkansas Humanities Council's African American Cemeteries Preservation Initiative. (See page 58 for details.)

A documentary film, Buried Treasures: The Stories of Bold Pilgrim Cemetery, produced for AETN's Silent Stories series, premiered 18 October at the Rialto Theater in Morrilton. It can be seen on-line at AETN's website. Stewart-Abernathy is one of the featured experts in the program. He also arranged a showing of the film at WRI on 26 February, in which producer, writer, and director Dee Curry, and co-cinematographer Ted Curry, were present along with 21 in the audience. Earlier that month, he had served as a panelist at another showing of the film at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center. Finally, he spoke on the Bold Pilgrim mapping project at two important gatherings of cemetery preservation groups held in Marshall and Little Rock. At the Marshall event he was asked to lead a session on legal aspects of cemetery preservation when the original speaker fell ill.

#### Arkansas Riverine Archeology

Fieldwork in 1988 at the West Memphis Boatwrecks site (3CT243) reignited Stewart-Abernathy's youthful interest in underwater archeology and set him on a path of interest in archeological remains of Arkansas's historic riverine watercraft. This year, there were several alerts concerning watercraft finds in our intrastate waterways. These included an assertion by a local historian of the location of the wreckage of converted gun boat *C.S.S. Ponchartrain,* scuttled and burned by the Confederates as Little Rock was falling into Union hands in September 1863. Stewart-Abernathy filled out a site form on the proposed location. He also served as a resource person when a gravel mining operation on White River, just downstream from Oil Trough, encountered a confusing assemblage at Blue Wing Shoals that at first appeared to be a boat. Actual identification of the remains is uncertain, but fortunately they are largely undisturbed. Society member Scott Akridge took the lead locally and with his help the mining operators eventually allowed an archeological team to visit the location and photograph some of the finds.

This incident also highlights a secondary impact of the recent exploitation of the Fayetteville Shale deposits for natural gas. The process requires hundreds of thousands of tons of particularly fine particle gravel, which are found as alluvial deposits along watercourses. Mining this gravel possibly impacts evidence of human use of those watercourses and their banks over the last 13,000 years.

#### Lakeport Plantation, Chicot County

Stewart-Abernathy and Michael Evans (Survey Coordinating Office) completed identification and cataloging of artifacts recovered during various mid-winter field expeditions to Lakeport in February 2009. This analysis confirmed the "Quarters" area was definitely a post-Civil War occupation and that there are antebellum occupations or components close to the Lakeport House as well as at the nearby Joel and Lydia Johnson plantation headquarters. The collection was then transferred to the Survey coordinating office in Fayetteville to be integrated with the other archeology at Lakeport and written up by Randall Guendling.

#### **Historic Washington State Park**

Stewart-Abernathy took advantage of a Spring Break Dig at the Block family house in Washington to revisit the town 23–25 March. The excavation was directed by graduate student David Markus, with SAU station archeologist Dr. Jamie Brandon advising. Stewart-Abernathy provided additional advice, since he directed the initial work at the Block House in 1983–84. He also toured the town to photograph the many improvements in the last decade. He also photographed and studied the Pioneer Cemetery, where recent storms had cleared away most of the vegetation. It was especially pleasing to talk to Ms. Mekicia Henry, an African-American woman who has won awards for her Living History portrayal of the enslaved cook for the Sanders family.

#### **Other Research**

Porter continued to participate in a wide variety of projects across the state. He assisted Toltec station archeologist Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey and UAPB station archeologist John House in rapid data recovery excavation at the Isgrig site in Little Rock. Porter made numerous field trips, either revisits or recording new sites, both prehistoric sites and historic cemeteries, in Conway, Johnson, Logan, Pope, and Yell Counties. He assisted Tim Mulvihill (UAFS) in mapping the Logan Eddy Mound site (3LO208), and worked with members of the Ouachita Chapter on test excavations at 3YE948. Porter also works with the Rock Art research team and the NEH-funded Central Arkansas River Valley project.



WRI station archeologist Skip Stewart-Abernathy (left) and station assistant Larry Porter (right) work with Eddie Duncan (center) to map the African-American St. John Cemetery in Conway County. Stewart-Abernathy serves as Humanities Scholar for work at the cemetery that is funded by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council.

## Station Personnel

Leslie Stewart-Abernathy (Ph.D., Brown University, 1981) is Research Station Archeologist for WRI with the Survey and Research Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. He joined the Survey in 1977 as UAPB station archeologist and moved to ATU as station archeologist in 1989. In 2007 the ATU station moved to WRI. He is a graduate of Jonesboro High School and Arkansas State University. His specialities include method and theory of historical archeology, historical archeology of Arkansas and the eastern United States, material culture (both industrial and pre-industrial), and the archeology of riverine watercraft.

Theresa Johnson (B.A. in Anthropology, 1978; M.A. in Folk Studies, 1983, Western Kentucky University) began working with the Survey as half-time station assistant at ATU (now WRI) in 1991. That same year she also took on a part-time position as education coordinator at the ATU Museum of Prehistory and History.

Lary Porter is a native of Logan County, Arkansas, and has been a member of the Arkansas Archeological Society since 1979. He participated in summer Training Programs and spent eight years doing contract archeology for various private firms, mostly in the Ouachita National Forest, before joining the Survey in 1999 as an assistant at ATU (now WRI). His interests include the prehistoric Woodland and Mississippi periods of the northern Ouachita Mountains and Petit Jean River Valley, as well as early historic settlement in Arkansas. He is an accomplished artist whose depictions of archeological subjects have appeared in publications and museum exhibits.

## Grants, Honors & Awards

• \$1190 from the Arkansas Archeological Society's Archeological Research Fund, to Larry Porter for AMS radiocarbon dates on samples from 3LO226.

## **Teaching & Higher Education**

- Stewart-Abernathy chaired one doctoral committee (Katie Cleek) and served on two other doctoral committees (Mary Brennan, Eric Proebsting) for Ph.D. candidates at UAF. He is an outside faculty member of Michael Young's M.A. committee in the Biological Sciences Department at Arkansas Tech University.
- Stewart-Abernathy presented a three-hour guest lecture on Native Americans of Arkansas to Crystal Browne's ANTH 1213 Introduction to Anthropology class at ATU, Spring 2010 semester (35 students).

## **Professional Service**

• Stewart-Abernathy served as editor of the proceedings of the South Central Historical Archeology Conference, published online at <u>www.arkansasarcheology.org/SCHAC.html</u>.

## Public Service & Outreach

- Assistance to Agencies and Individuals. Stewart-Abernathy gave assistance or information on archeological topics to the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Officer, Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department, Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita National Forests, Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas State Parks, and Petit Jean State Park. He provided images of agriculture and food sellers in Xian, Chengdu/Sichuan and Beijing (taken during his 2006 visit to China under the auspices of UALR's Chinese Culture and Heritage Project/Arkansas Global Programs) to Small Farms Program Coordinator Joanna Siebert. He also assisted ATU Professor Dianne Gleason with research for a series of articles for the Butler Center's online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*.
- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Stewart-Abernathy attended a meeting in Little Rock about the Arkansas Humanities Council grants program. He continued as Humanities Scholar for Solomon Grove Cemetery (Faulkner County), and Bold Pilgrim, Pilgrims Rest, and St. John Cemeteries (Conway County). At St. John, station staff and Cemetery Association members mapped the cemetery using the Total Station. Additional work was done on the Bold Pilgrim site forms, adding locations of community centers and home sites. Stewart-Abernathy gave talks at Cemetery Preservation workshops in Marshall (audience, 50) and Little Rock (audience, 45).

• **Programs & Presentations**. Stewart-Abernathy gave talks at the Saline County Public Library in Benton (audience, 16), at Petit Jean State Park for Archeology Day (audience, 25), and at two of WRI's Picture the Past film & lecture series events (combined audience, 45). He gave presentations at WRI to the Senior American Special group (audience, 57), the Agricultural Extension Club (audience, 25), AmeriCorps volunteers (audience, 15), and the Pope County Historical Association (audience, 21). He gave a program and led a tour to Rock House Cave (35 middle school students) and presented a program at a summer day camp in Morrilton (75 students). He gave several presentations to Russellville elementary school teachers on In-Service days (combined, 175 teachers).

### Service to Winthrop Rockefeller Institute

- Heritage Farmstead. Stewart-Abernathy assists with development of the Heritage Farmstead as a place to interpret life in Petit Jean Mountain from the late 1800s through the mid 20th century. This year he prepared interpretive text for the reconstructed smokehouse, completed furnishing for the springhouse/celler, advised on designs for a traditional farmhouse, and assisted WRI horticulturist Elizabeth Mattocks. He and the ARV Chapter had a booth on Native American food-getting at the Farmstead's Mountain Top Harvest Festival in October 2009.
- **"Picture the Past" Film & Lecture Series**. Stewart-Abernathy works with WRI Program Coordinator Joe Foster to organize and host this series of films followed by brief related presentations by guest lecturers on archeological topics. There were six films during this fiscal year (crossing portions of two seasons of the WRI series), with approximately 70 attendees.
- Workshops at the Teaching Barn. Station staff organized two seminars as part of the Arkansas Archeological Society's Training & Certification Program that were held at WRI: Human Osteology (taught by Dr. Jeff Mitchem) and Historical Archeology (taught by Dr. Skip Stewart-Abernathy, with a guest lecture by Larry Porter). Also held at the Teaching Barn during the year was a training session on archeology for two Master Naturalists classes, co-taught by Stewart-Abernathy and Don Higgins, and a workshop on Arkansas Rural Landscape Photography, in cooperation with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (6 participants)
- Petit Jean Mountain Prehistory Exhibit. The exhibit galleries were completed in time for Rockefeller Legacy Day events on May 1, including artifacts dug from the Carden Bottom area during the 1920s, now part of the UA Museum Collection. Specimens were organized and placed on the pedestals by station staff and AmeriCorps intern Carlos Ochoa. A replica excavation unit carved from styrofoam blocks by Ochoa and painted, installed, and dressed by Ochoa and Porter, was completed in July.
- **Project Dig**. The station worked with WRI Program Coordinator Joe Foster to continue Project Dig, a program that brings concept learning and critical thinking to elementary school gifted & talented students using archeology as a medium. Debbi Jones, G&T teacher at Pine Grove Elementary School (Maumelle), and Angela Hartman, G&T teacher at Wooster Elementary School (Greenbrier Public Schools) participated in the program with approximately 40 students and 10 parents. The kids "invented" a culture, providing an alphabet, value systems, and artifacts made of commercial oven-baked clay. The artifacts were then brought out to WRI, where they were broken and scattered over a designated area that had been marked off into 2 x 2 meter units. Each school collected the other school's artifacts, using controlled surface collection methods as in real archeological fieldwork. Then they attempted to reconstruct the culture of the people whose artifacts they had recovered, again using typical archeological ideas, and presented their conclusions in a final Symposium—sometimes with amusing results.

#### Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- Arkansas River Valley Chapter. The station hosts the ARV Chapter, with 11 monthly meetings. Johnson is Secretary/Treasurer, handles press relations, and prepares a quarterly newsletter. WRI marketing staff assists greatly with public relations. Stewart-Abernathy is program chair, recruiting speakers and setting up monthly lab/ fieldwork days. He presented four programs and was co-presenter (with Don Higgins) of a fifth.
- Training & Certification Program. Stewart-Abernathy and Porter served as supervisors at the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds State Park. The station and WRI sponsored two weekend Certification Program seminars separately from the June field school—Human Osteology and Historical Archeology; Stewart-Abernathy taught the latter class.

• **Programs & Presentations**. Stewart-Abernathy gave talks at monthly meetings of the Ouachita (Hot Springs), Arkansas River Valley (Petit Jean Mountain, 4 occasions), and Central Mississippi Valley (Jonesboro) Chapters (combined audiences, 121). Porter gave a talk to the Arkansas River Valley (Petit Jean Mountain; audience, 15). Both Stewart-Abernathy and Porter presented papers at the Society's 2009 annual meeting in Eureka Springs. The station and Chapter hosted an Open House at WRI for Archeology Month (March 2010), during which Stewart-Abernathy gave a presentation and Society member Ben Swadley demonstrated flint knapping.

## **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 250 hours to station activities, including lab and field research projects, and special outreach events.

# Henderson State University, Arkadelphia

Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, Station Archeologist Amanda Brock, Station Assistant Elizabeth Sorensen, AmeriCorps student intern (part-time, temporary)

The Arkadelphia research station is located on the campus of Henderson State University, where the station archeologist teaches anthropology courses in the Department of Sociology and Human Services. The station is responsible for archeological resources in nine counties of southwestern Arkansas. This area is dominated by the Ouachita Mountains, but extends across parts of the Little Missouri, most of the Middle Ouachita, and the Middle Saline river basins on the Gulf Coastal Plain. Ouachita Mountain novaculite, mined extensively in the 19th century as "Arkansas whetstone," and also quarried by prehistoric American Indians for toolmaking and trade, is a resource that affected early settlement and land use in the uplands. In the river basins, salt-making was an industry pursued by American Indians and later by settlers. Both activities are represented by important archeological sites.

# News & Research

# Novaculite Tool Production and Exchange in the Ouachita Mountains

Arkansas Novaculite has been an important rock resource in the Ouachita Mountains for millennia. The procurement, use, and exchange of novaculite by Indians in the past is a major research focus for the HSU station. Following the major excavations at Jones Mill (3HS28) during the 2007–2008 Training Programs and UA/HSU Archeological Field Schools, work at the station has focused on lab processing, data entry, artifact analysis, and interpretation and writing of results. Trubitt and Brock continued supervising students and volunteers who are cataloging the artifacts and sorting flotation and waterscreened samples from Jones Mill. The catalog from site 3HS28 is now completed and work on 3HS195 has begun.

Brock summarized part of the Jones Mill 2007 excavations in a short article for *Field Notes*. Trubitt analyzed magnetite, netsinkers, chipped stone dart points and bifaces, and ceramic artifacts from Jones Mill and worked on overall interpretation of the site and excavations. Trubitt wrote several grant proposals that were funded by the Arkansas Humanities Council and Arkansas Archeological Society, and corresponded with colleagues who are performing specialty analyses (lipid residues, microwear, floral and faunal identifications, and additional AMS dates) as part of the "Archaic Foodways" project. Trubitt also prepared a paper on evidence for fishing at the Jones Mill site for the Arkansas Archeological Society annual meeting in Eureka Springs.

#### Ancient Caddo Lifeways on the Caddo, Ouachita, and Saline Rivers

Understanding Caddo Indian societies and lifeways from mound building to pottery use—at archeological sites ca. A.D. 1200–1700 in the Caddo, Ouachita, and Saline river valleys is an ongoing research focus of the HSU station. Much of this effort now centers on writing and publication following several field excavations in recent years.

Trubitt worked on a collaborative project on timing of the shift to shell-tempering in Caddo ceramics. This research will result in a coauthored paper to be submitted for journal publication. Trubitt also continued research and writing on a collaborative article on the dating of Caddo sites in southwest Arkansas; grant proposals will be developed from this in the future.

With the main analyses completed, Trubitt and Brock moved Hughes site (3SA11) artifacts to curation. One publication including excavation results appeared this year, and another is in the works.

In "Burning and Burying Buildings: Exploring Variation in Caddo Architecture in Southwest Arkansas," Trubitt compared the architecture of burned structures uncovered at two sites she excavated (Caddo Valley, 3CL593, and Hughes, 3SA11) with other excavated examples dating to the A.D. 1100s through early 1600s. The buildings at the two sites had been discovered within and adjacent to mounds. Trubitt compared the practice of terminating important buildings intentionally burning and burying them, as opposed to the abandonment of ordinary structures.





She looked for specific architectural and archeological "signatures" of the two types of building termination, and used information from Caddo Indian ritual and belief systems to understand these processes.

In "Two Shell Gorgets from Southwest Arkansas," Trubitt descibes previously unpublished artifacts from the Arkadelphia area that are curated by the Arkansas Archeological Survey. Though the gorgets were not professionally excavated and lack scientific context, they still add to the database on southeastern art and iconography. There are many kinds of marine shell artifacts from Caddo sites in southwest Arkansas—including ear ornaments, beads, pendants, and cups. Gorgets are relatively rare. Both gorgets described in the article are of Busycon or marine whelk shell, but only one is decorated. It is engraved with a series of concentric circles and has a central four-pointed star or cross. These are all design elements commonly used in the religious iconography of the late prehistoric/protohistoic period. When added to the few other shell gorgets known, these artifacts contribute to understanding the timing and routes of trade in marine shell, which reveal long-range cultural connections throughout the American Southeast.



Engraved marine shell gorget from the Shepherd site (3CL39) that was described in an article by Trubitt published this year in *Caddo Archeology Journal*.

Trubitt and Brock met with Survey colleagues to discuss strategies for continuing archeological research in the Saline River–Moro Bayou region as part of the "Borderlands Project." Brock read relevant site forms, identified sites for revisits, and began field visits to sites in the Saline River Borderlands.

# Mississippian Period Political, Economic, and Social Developments

Research into complex Native American societies during the second millenium A.D. includes not only the Caddo in southwest Arkansas but broadly encompasses Mississippian societies across the American Midwest and Southeast. Trubitt directed a major project between 1998 and 2003 at the Cahokia site (near St. Louis). This town and mound center was the premier site of the Mississippian culture of the eastern United States. Trubitt's project studied the role of Cahokia's palisades in war and politics.

In Arkansas, Trubitt has continued working on the artifact analysis and final report for the Cahokia Palisade Project. She also collaborated on an article on faunal analysis from the project (that was supported by a grant from the Illinois Association for the Advancement of Archaeology). Trubitt co-organized two symposia for the 2010 annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, and wrote a paper on palisades and warfare at Cahokia for one of the sessions.

Amanda Brock assisted John House (UAPB research station archeologist) with excavations at the Isgrig site (3PU15). Brock also continued to work on her Master's thesis research, analyzing excavations at a Mississippian period site in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

## **HSU Station Personnel**

Mary Beth Trubitt (Ph.D., Northwestern University, 1996) is Research Station Archeologist for HSU/Arkadelphia with the Survey and Research Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. She joined the Survey in 2000 after a teaching position at Western Michigan University. She has previous field experience in ten states and Belize, including work in southern Arkansas in the 1980s, and extensive research at the Cahokia site, where she studied the role of prestige goods in the political strategies of chiefdoms, among other topics. She is an expert on various prehistoric technologies and procurement strategies, including the shell bead industry, novaculite and other lithic extraction and tool making, and ceramics.

Amanda Brock (B.A., University of Memphis, 2004) came to the Survey in May of 2007 after completing graduate coursework in geoarcheology at the University of Memphis. She has prior field experience in several southeastern states. Her area of research in the graduate program at Memphis focuses on the Late Mississippian period in north Mississippi.

## Grants, Honors & Awards

- \$595 from the Arkansas Archeological Society's Archeological Research Fund to Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, to obtain an AMS radiocarbon date for the Jones Mill site (3HS28) ("Reconstructing Foodways during the Middle Archaic: Specialized Analyses from the 2007–2008 Training Program Excavations at Jones Mill").
- \$1845 from the Arkansas Humanities Council to Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, for specialized analyses of excavated materials from the Jones Mill site (3HS28): AMS radiocarbon dating, floral, and faunal analysis ("Reconstructing Ancient Foodways in Hot Spring County, Arkansas").

## Teaching & Higher Education

- Trubitt taught ANT 3053/SOC 3063, World Cultures (45 students) and ANT 2023, Introduction to Physical Anthropology and Archeology (3 students), Spring 2010 semester. She updated course pages on the Internet, and developed class pages on HSU's Angel intranet system.
- Trubitt, Brock, and Sorensen supervised students in the Archeology Lab.
- Trubitt served on HSU student James Duke's Master of Liberal Arts thesis committee; he successfully completed his MLA project in May 2010.
- Trubitt advised students on class projects and research papers; she participated in HSU's Ellis College Faculty Showcase, and presented a guest lecture in Dr. Herman Gibson's Fall 2009 semester World Cultures class (ANT 3053/SOC 3063).

• The station curates artifacts and records of the Joint Educational Consortium's Hodges Collection. Trubitt worked on a report of the Hodges Collection ceramic vessel recording project (following up a Ross Foundation grant). She met with a team doing a feasibility study for development of a Caddo Indian Heritage Center in Arkadelphia, that might include artifact exhibits drawn from the JEC Hodges Collection.

## **Professional Service**

- Trubitt serves on the editorial board of *Caddo Archeology Journal*. She agreed to be Program Chair for the 2011 Caddo Conference, scheduled to be held in Fort Smith in March 2011.
- Trubitt provided peer review of submissions to the journals *Southeastern Archaeology* and *The Arkansas Archeologist*. She reviewed a dissertation improvement grant proposal for National Science Foundation.
- Trubitt was co-organizer of two symposia ("James Brown and the Impact of Cahokia in the Mississippian Southeast," with George Sabo III and Kent Riley III and "The Moorehead Moment: The Historical Context of Cahokia's 13th Century Reorganization" with John Kelly and James Brown) at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in St. Louis.

## Public Service & Outreach

- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Trubitt serves as Humanities Scholar for six cemetery association grant proposals and Brock is Humanities Scholar for 11 such grants from the Arkansas Humanities Council. Associations served include Helms Cemetery and Richmond Hill Cemetery (Clark County), both of which received major grants in 2010; several other groups have received mini-grants. Trubitt and Grant attended several meetings and events related to the Cemetery Initiative. Brock, assisted by Jessica Howe (UAM station) and Elizabeth Sorensen (AmeriCorps), began a mapping project at Richmond Hill (3CL869). Brock assisted Toomes Cemtery (3DA658) Association by flagging unmarked graves.
- Federal Agencies. Trubitt and Brock assisted fieldwork at sites in Hot Springs National Park and Ouachita National Forest. Brock participated in the Hot Springs National Park's Parkapalooza event.
- **Consultations & Other Public Archeology**. The station loaned artifacts for illustration in a publication, and for exhibit at the Arkansas State Capitol. The station has a "teaching box" available to local teachers and students. Trubitt and Brock performed a water line field survey/testing project for the Tulip–Princeton Water Association and reported their findings.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Trubitt gave an illustrated talk in HSU's Community Classes series (audience, 40); the talk was later the focus of an article in HSU Ellis College's *Forge* magazine. She also gave talks to the Diamondhead Lion's Club (audience, 35), and by invitation at the Museum of the Red River in Idabel, Oklahoma (audience, 100). Brock gave a talk, and joined other Survey personnel in an Artifact ID event at the Dallas County Museum in Fordyce (audience, 35). Brock also gave presentations to the Garland County Historic Society (audience, 25) and a training program for Potlatch Logging Company employees (audience, 50).

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Ouachita Chapter.** Trubitt and Brock participated in Ouachita Chapter activities, including monthly meetings and fieldwork. Brock volunteered to serve as one of the Chapter's Members-at-Large for 2010. Trubitt assisted Chapter members assemble an Archeology Month display for Garland County Library.
- **Training & Certification Program.** Trubitt taught the Lithics seminar (6 participants) during the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds State Park. She and Parkin station archeologist Jeff Mitchem supervised excavations at Mound P, and Brock assisted in supervision of excavations at Mound D during the Program. Brock also processed flotation samples and provided logistical support.
- **Programs & Presentations.** Trubitt and Brock attended the annual meeting in Eureka Springs and Trubitt presented a paper. Trubitt gave talks at monthly meetings of the Ouachita (Hot Springs), Kadohadacho (Magnolia), Ark-Homa (Fort Smith), and Toltec (Little Rock) Chapters (combined audiences, 95).

## **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 369 hours to station research projects in the field and lab.

# Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia

Dr. Jamie C. Brandon, Station Archeologist David R. Jeane, Station Assistant Holli K. Howard, Technical Assistant & Laboratory Manager

The Magnolia research station is located on the campus of Southern Arkansas University, where the station archeologist teaches in the School of Liberal and Performing Arts. The station is also helping to develop a new Southern Arkansas Museum on the campus. The SAU research station is responsible for the archeological resources of 11 counties in southwestern Arkansas. Station territory stretches from the southern edge of the Ouachita Mountains to the Arkansas/Louisiana state line, and incorporates the Great Bend region of the Red River. Among the important sites in SAU station territory are Crenshaw, the earliest known Caddo ceremonial center, and Historic Washington State Park, an antebellum town restored and interpreted by Arkansas State Parks and the Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation.

## News & Research

#### Archeology at Historic Washington State Park

The antebellum town of Washington (3HE236) in Hempstead County, Arkansas, was once the county seat, the Confederate state capital during the Civil War, and a booming cotton town on the Southwest Trail. It is perhaps the best surviving example of a nineteenth century town in the Old Southwest. This year Dr. Brandon and incoming University of Arkansas graduate student David Markus began a new set of projects investigating the home of Abraham Block, an early important merchant in the town of Washington and the first documented Jewish immigrant in Arkansas.

During the 1982 and 1983 Arkansas Archeological Society summer training programs held at the Block House, Dr. Leslie C. "Skip" Stewart-Abernathy recovered the remains of a sealed trash deposit dating to the early 1840s under the expected footprint of the Block kitchen. Within this pit were a variety of household ceramics that likely represent discards from the Block home as well as the family business, and faunal remains related to food consumption. These remains provided an opportunity to closely examine the Blocks' attitudes and adherence to a major tenet of traditional Judaism: the system of kashrut relating to meat consumption. With the assistance of Dr. Barbara Ruff (University of Georgia), Stewart-Abernathy analyzed the remains and found that despite kosher laws forbidding the consumption of pork and catfish, there were in fact a respectable amount of both in the pit. Taken in conjunction with documentary evidence, this finding illustrates the Block family's efforts to adapt their Judaism to frontier conditions.

The archeological record became increasingly complex in 1998 when the Sponsored Research Program of the Arkansas Archeological Survey, under the direction of Randall Guendling, returned to the Block yard space as part of work done for the Park. Guendling, along with Mike Evans and Jared Pebworth, tested both the side and back yards with augers. Based on those findings they dug several backhoe trenches in an attempt to locate early nineteenth century features. One of the trenches skirted the base of a long-dead tree where brick remains were being exposed due to soil erosion. This trench, dug not five meters from the location of the 1980s kitchen excavations, revealed the intact base of a brick feature—possibly a chimney or pier. This complicated the view of the Block urban farmstead landscape. What did the brick feature represent? Was it possibly an earlier structure? An end chimney for the kitchen uncovered in the 1980s? Or a previously unknown building contemporaneous with that kitchen?

As a first step to answering these questions, Markus and Dr. Brandon undertook a scanning project in January and February to digitize the historian's files at the park. Then, as part of Archeology Month events in March, Dr. Brandon, David Markus, Dr. Stewart-Abernathy, and Holli Howard—with the assistance of University of Arkansas graduate students Pritam Chowdhury and Duncan McKinnon and Arkansas Archeological Society members Bob Campbell, Canaan Gideon, Connie Masters, and Tom Purdin—conducted eight days of excavations behind the Block House. Eight units were dug surrounding the mystery brick feature. These excavations resulted in the complete exposure of the brick feature, confirming that it is, in fact, a chimney. A sealed midden (probably protected



University of Arkansas undergraduate Ashley Applegate and Arkansas Tech undergraduate Logan Smith profile a pit feature at the Royston House during the 2010 archeological field school at Historic Washington State Park.

beneath a structure) north of the chimney indicates that it likely relates to a building separate from the kitchen located to the east. The midden was a dense deposit containing a multitude of artifacts, including many fragments of ceramics (often with the same transfer-print patterns as those excavated in the kitchen pit), nails, glass (including an etched glass goblet), food remains (animal bone), artifacts of a more personal nature such as children's toys (marbles, toy tea sets, and doll fragments), music-related artifacts (mouth harp and harmonica reed plate), armaments (gun flint, lead shot, bullets, and cartridges), and objects related to personal adornment (i.e., buttons, a small metal clasp, straight pins). These artifacts are of a domestic nature, indicating the structure was not a barn, smoke house or privy, and date to the same period as the artifacts recovered in the 1980s. Likely candidates for the structure's occupants are the enslaved Africans in the service of the Block family.

Other project volunteers included Sara Wade (HWSP Historian); Kyle Farmer (a junior at Blevins High School); Madeline Green, Debra Hartley, and Andrea Levvorn (SAU undergraduates); and Karen Mills, Hanna Berry, Joseph Berry, Maggie Berry, Finn Buckley, Hayes Buckley, Cole Herberg, and Thomas Herberg. From mid-May to mid-June the SAU station returned to Historic Washington State Park—this time with a University of Arkansas archeological field school. Dr. Brandon led the excavations with six undergraduate students (Luke Morris, Shelby Linck, Teka McGlothlin, Ashley Applegate, Logan Smith, and Jason Walbaum), two graduate students (David Markus and Carl Carlson-Drexler), and two Arkansas Archeological Society volunteers (fatherdaughter team James and Lydia Rees). These excavations finished collecting material behind the Block House and branched out—returning to the Royston House back yard initially investigated during the 2008 and 2009 Archeology Months and conducting preliminary ground-truthing at the site of Dooley's Ferry (see below).

Dr. Brandon, David Markus, and Pritam Chowdhury have given several public and professional talks and posters on the archeology in Historic Washington State Park this year, including a poster at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings, a paper at the "Judaism in the South" conference hosted by the Crain-Maling Center of Jewish Culture at Hendrix College, and talks to the Tunica and Ko-ko-çi Chapters of the Arkansas Archeological Society, Southern Arkansas Community College, and at Historic Washington State Park.

### Caddo Archeologies: continuing work on the Battle, Crenshaw, Ferguson, and Martin Sites

Work continues on sites affiliated with the late prehistoric Caddo cultures in southwestern Arkansas. Using the materials excavated by emeritus SAU station archeologist Dr. Frank Schambach, a new generation of researchers— University of Arkansas graduate students working with Dr. Brandon—is bringing new technologies and new perspectives to bear on some fascinating sites. The SAU station is proud to give resources, support, and guidance to this work.

Pritam Chowdhury has made great headway with his dissertation project on the Ferguson site (3HE63). Ferguson, an important two-mound site located in the Little Missouri drainage in southwestern Arkansas, is the most completely excavated Middle Caddo ceremonial center in Arkansas. Excavations were done in the early 1970s by the Arkansas Archeological Survey, with the assistance of the Arkansas Archeological Society, under the direction of Dr. Frank Schambach.

In August Dr. Brandon and Mr. Chowdhury sorted through the large Ferguson collections and transferred materials from Mound B to Fayetteville for further analysis. Over the course of this year, Chowdhury has rehabilitated these collections in addition to conducting analyses. He has extensively documented all of the 42 whole ceramic vessels, recording metrics and assigning the pots to both the traditional "type-variety" system and the Collegiate System created by Schambach and Dr. Ann Early specifically for ceramics in this region. Similar treatment has been given to possible ceremonial objects and lithics in the Mound B assemblage. Pritam is in the process of synthesizing the burial data from Mound B and has begun examining and seriating the Mound B and Mound B submound ceramics.

Chowdhury has also been hard at work preserving the documentary record of the Ferguson excavations—by scanning records, slides, and maps, and also taking on a project to digitize "Preserving the Past for the Future," a 16mm educational film made during the 1972 Ferguson excavations. Pritam gave presentations on past and current research about the Ferguson site at the 2010 Arkansas Archeological Society Summer Training Program and at the November meeting of the Ko-ko-çi Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society.

Battle Mound (3LA1), along the Red River in Lafayette County, is the largest surviving Caddo mound in the Tribe's traditional homeland. After completing his M.A. thesis on initial geophysical work at the site, Duncan McKinnon is now laying the groundwork for a Battle Mound dissertation project. In September Dr. Brandon, McKinnon, and volunteers from the University of Arkansas continued the remote sensing project at the site. Though the work was cut short by unseasonably torrential rains, the new data are the most promising so far recovered from the site—including six or seven possible large circular structures which will be targets for future excavations.

Duncan returned to the SAU station in February to work on Battle-related projects. He digitized all the photographs of Foster-Trailed Incised whole vessels from the station's "analog ceramic database" for a study on the distribution and variation of the Foster-Trailed Incised type. McKinnon and Dr. Brandon sorted through material from the 1980s Battle Mound surface collections and these materials were transferred to Fayetteville for further analysis by McKinnon. Duncan (with Dr. Brandon as coauthor in some cases) has published the results of his ongoing Battle Mound work in *Field Notes, The Arkansas Archeologist,* and *Southeastern Archaeology*.

In August, John Samuelsen defended his M.A. thesis on remote sensing at Crenshaw Mounds (3MI6)—a very early Caddo ceremonial center that the SAU station has been researching since 1969. Samuelsen's paper on his Crenshaw Mound geophysics was awarded second place in the Southeastern Archeological Conference Student Paper Prize competition.

David Jeane began an analysis of artifacts from Mound F at Crenshaw (3MI6). He continued an ongoing project to analyze bone from Crenshaw as part of grant-funded research by UAF anthropology doctoral candidate Barbara Farley.

In late May and early June the SAU station played host to Dr. Schambach who returned to work on the publication of some of his past projects. During this visit Frank, assisted by Holli Howard and David Jeane, worked on the analysis of materials from the Martin site and Tom Jones Mound, as well as digitizing portions of the station's "analog ceramic database."

#### **Return to Van Winkle's Mill**

Before taking up his post as the SAU research station archeologist in 2006, Dr. Brandon worked on and off for about a decade at a site called Van Winkle's Mill on Beaver Lake in northwest Arkansas. This work formed the core of his dissertation at the University of Texas at Austin. This year Dr. Brandon returned to Van Winkle's Mill with University of Arkansas graduate Kristina Boykin in order to help answer a set of research questions posed by Ms. Boykin's thesis work.

In late July Dr. Brandon led a tour of Van Winkle's Mill and the new Hobbs State Park interpretive center. In the group were Ms. Boykin, Teka McGlothlin, Matt Franklin, Aaron Lingelbach, and Leslie Walker. Afterward Dr. Brandon, Ms. Boykin, and Ms. McGlothlin (an AAS volunteer and University of Arkansas undergraduate) revisited the



UAF doctoral candidate Pritam Chowdhury works on analysis of ceramic vessels from the Ferguson site. Here, an interesting vessel from Mound B has a rim classified as Sinner Linear Punctate and a body typed as Pease Brushed Incised.

2001 excavations at Feature 33, a possible antebellum slave quarters serving Van Winkle's Mill, by conducting an in-depth artifact analysis. This analysis opened up new interpretive possibilities for the structure. First and foremost, Ms. Boykin wanted to understand a pit feature that Dr. Brandon had encountered on the creek bank during the 2001 excavations. Secondly, she wanted to follow the excavations to the east in order to confirm the presence of a structure. Finally, she wanted more material to explore the light, but persistent postbellum artifact assemblage that was discovered during the 2010 analysis.

Dr. Brandon and Ms. Boykin led a week of new excavations at Feature 33 in early October—digging a total of seven 1 x 2 m test units. Recovered material was light, but we learned a great deal about the site. For instance, the thick organic deposit that we had thought in 2001 might be a feature, turned out to be the structure's sheet midden buried under overbank deposits and a gravel bar. The all-volunteer crew was made up of local professionals and University of Arkansas graduate students including Bobby Myers, Eric Masterson, Pritam Chowdhury, and David Markus. While he was working at Feature 33, Dr. Brandon also spent three days helping out in a program similar to the Van Winkle's Mill outreach program jointly created by the Rogers Museum, Hobbs State Park, and the Survey in 2004. This year we toured about 600 middle school students through Van Winkle's Mill, War Eagle Mill, and the new Hobbs interpretive center.

Kristina Boykin successfully defended her M.A. thesis on April 21, 2010. Her committee consisted of Dr. Brandon, Survey Director Dr. Tom Green, and UAF station archeologist Dr. George Sabo.

Dr. Brandon gave public and professional programs about the Van Winkle's Mill archeological project to the Toltec Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society, the Hobbs Chapter of the Arkansas Master Naturalists, the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting, and the special conference "Windows from the Present to the Past: The Archaeology of Africa and the African Diaspora" held at Howard University, February 25–27 in Washington, D.C. Finally, Holli Howard and Dr. Brandon wrote an entry on "Peter Marselis Van Winkle (1814–1882)" for the Butler Center's online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture.* 

# The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial and Archeology at Dooley's Ferry

Arkansas's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War (2011–2015) is almost upon us. Dr. Brandon has been serving as vice-chairman of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission since 2007. The SAU station has thus become involved in a number of projects related to the Civil War.

This year, Dr. Brandon consulted with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and members of the Helena Civil War Interpretation Project about how to identify the boundaries of a Civil War skirmish that occurred along Big Creek near Helena. He also consulted on and supported new interpretive plans for Helena and Prairie DeAnn battlefield near Prescott, Arkansas.

Dr. Brandon has been working with Carl Carlson-Drexler, Ph.D. candidate at the College of William and Mary, on his dissertation research into Dooley's Ferry (3HE14) on the Red River in southern Hempstead County. This ferry was an important feature of the militarized landscape of the Trans-Mississippi Theater of the Civil War. It thus offers a unique opportunity to study the flow of goods and people engaged in local, regional, and global markets into and out of what was a remote corner of the South during a time of great disruption to the patterns of everyday antebellum life. Following last year's mapping and shovel testing program, this February Dr. Brandon, Mr. Carlson-Drexler, John Samuelsen, and Holli Howard conducted an initial geophysical survey at the site of Dooley's Ferry. A total of 43 grids were covered with both magnetometry and ground-penetrating radar and seven grids were covered with the resistance meter. This survey revealed the signatures of a prehistoric Caddo house (associated with Red Lake Mound which is also on the site), as well as at least three large definite metal scatters/activity areas. In June, Mr. Carlson-Drexler returned to Dooley's Ferry with the aforementioned 2010 University of Arkansas archeological field school for a week of test excavations guided by this remote sensing survey. The excavations showed that the first of these scatters is definitely nineteenth century, definitely a building, but not a domestic structure. Future test excavations and remote sensing surveys are planned for next year.

Dr. Brandon gave several talks about the upcoming Civil War Sesquicentennial celebration—in July to the Ouachita-Calhoun Counties Genealogical Society and in August to the Arkansas Tri-Peaks Regional Chamber of Commerce at Lake Dardanelle State Park.

# Cemetery Preservation Efforts in Southwest Arkansas

The SAU research station continued its involvement in the research and preservation of cemeteries in southwest Arkansas. Dr. Brandon served as humanities scholar on Arkansas Humanities Council Documentation and Preservation grants, helping local groups concerned with preserving African-American cemeteries.

In this capacity Dr. Brandon and SAU staff have conducted planning visits for several cemeteries in the AHC program, including Paraloma Cemetery in Sevier County, the Cleveland and Walker cemeteries in Miller County, Hickory Ridge Cemetery, Macedonia Cemetery, Beach Hill and Stephens Seminary Cemetery in Ouachita County, Washington Hill Cemetery in Nevada County, St. Luke, Andersen, and Plainview cemeteries in Columbia County, and Carlock Cemetery in Ashley County.

Dr. Brandon, with the assistance of Arkansas Archeological Society member Vernon Perry, visited a number of other cemeteries in the region including the Cobb Cemetery, Caledonia Cemetery, Ebenezer/Caledonia Church, El Bethel, and Hopewell Cemeteries in Union and Columbia Counties.

Finally, SAU station assistant David Jeane directed an Eagle Scout project to document and rehabilitate Fellowship Cemetery, an abandoned and endangered graveyard in Columbia County.

#### **Collections Processing and Rehabilitation**

SAU research station staff have continued to rehabilitate and inventory the station collections and work with other collections in the region.

David Jeane has continued his project to record Carden Bottoms ceramic vessels housed in the collections at Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport. The SAU interns in Public History helped process all the materials recovered from the 2009 excavations at the Royston House in Historic Washington State Park, conducted a refit project on the Royston House ceramics, and helped with the general station collections inventory.

In conjunction with the Survey Registrar and Sponsored Research Program, the SAU research station (Holli Howard) participated in the rehabilitation, consolidation and NAGPRA compliance of archeological collections and support documentation from Cedar Grove (3LA97), an important project in the Red River region. All these efforts are part of the process of creating an overall inventory for the station collections, begun with rehabilitation of the Spirit Lake (3LA83) and Fish Lake (3LA287) materials in 2007–2008.

## SAU Station Personnel

Jamie C. Brandon (Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, 2004) is Research Station Archeologist for SAU/Magnolia with the Survey and Research Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas–Fayetteville. He has more than 20 years of experience in the field of archeology, has been involved with projects in 13 southeastern states, and has authored or coauthored publications and/or technical reports in seven of those states. Dr. Brandon has worked at all stages of investigation and on sites dating from the Pleistocene to the twentieth century. He has worked with the Arkansas Archeological Survey in various capacities since 1997. His professional interests include historical archeology of the 19th century South, prehistoric and protohistoric cultures of the Mid-South and Trans-Mississippi South, cultural and historical memory, and working with descendant communities.

David R. Jeane (M.S., Northeast Louisiana University, 1976) joined the Survey in 1997 as station assistant at SAU. During his previous 25-year career with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Jeane maintained an active role in Arkansas and Louisiana archeology as a member of several organizations. He has also done research on South American mummies and 17th and 18th century English ceramics.

Holli K. Howard (B.A., Southern Arkansas University, 2009) has recently joined the Survey as a Technical Assistant and Laboratory Manager for the Cedar Grove collection rehabilitation project and the current fieldwork at Historic Washington State Park. Holli is a native of Ruston, Louisiana but has lived in Hawaii, Virginia, Texas, North Carolina, California, and New Orleans, Louisiana, before coming back to the Ark-La-Tex. Holli worked with the SAU Magale Library and was an intern at the SAU research station in the Fall semester of 2009 before coming on board as Lab Manager. Holli is interested in Victoriana, archival work, and museum studies.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- School of Liberal and Performing Arts, SAU. Brandon taught SOC 1003, General Anthropology, (32 students); SOC 3143/ HIST 3143, Anthropology of North American Indians, (32 students); SOC 4133, and Honors Anthropology of Popular Culture, (5 students). In addition, he oversaw a History/Museum Internship, HIST 4923, a course that provides a structured experience in the work of public history (6 student interns). He served as a guest lecturer on the topic of Native American Art in Doug Waterfield's Art History I (ART 2143) and Art History II (ART 2153) classes at SAU. David Jeane served as a guest lecturer on the topic of "Lost Arkansas" to Ben Johnson's Arkansas History Class (HIST 3083) at SAU. Brandon and Jeane served as judges for National History Day events at Southern Arkansas University.
- University of Arkansas Fayetteville. Brandon taught ANTH 4256, Archeological Field School, for the Department of Anthropology, UAF (6 students). Brandon served on three M.A. and three Ph.D. committees for students enrolled in the Anthropology Department at UAF.
- **Other Institutions**. David Jeane directed an intern from the University of California-Chico in developing a new Caddo Native American exhibit at Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, Shreveport, Louisiana. Brandon served on the committee for a Ph.D. candidate at the College of William and Mary.

## **Professional Service**

- **Professional Organizations**. Brandon served as Associate Editor for Historical Archaeology for the *The SAA Archaeological Record* (the newsletter of the Society for American Archaeology) and as an Associate Editor of Historical Archaeology for the journal of the Society for Historical Archaeology. He is a member of the Society for American Archaeology's Professional Development Committee, chair of the Society for Historical Archaeology's Academic and Professional Training Committee, outgoing SHA Continuing Education Coordinator, and chair of the SHA Student Paper Prize subcommittee.
- Brandon contributed peer-reviews of articles submitted to the journals *Southeastern Archaeology* and *Historical Archaeology*.
- Brandon is chair of the Survey's Publications Committee.
- Brandon is Vice-Chairman of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission (appointed by Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe). He is on the Board of Trustees of the Arkansas Historical Association.
- Brandon co-owns and moderates the African-American Archaeology Network listserver (335 members and 143 messages posted 2009–10); he owns and moderates the Southwest Arkansas Archeology Listserver (324 members and 59 messages posted 2009–10).

## Public Service & Outreach

- **Programs & Presentations**. Brandon presented public programs to the Arkansas Tri-Peaks Regional Chamber of Commerce at Lake Dardanelle State Park (audience, 20), twice to the South Arkansas Community College (combined audience, 95), Historic Washington State Park (audience, 15), Ouachita and Calhoun Counties Genealogical Society (audience, 35), Louisiana Archeology Month in Lafayette Louisiana (audience, 10), McAlester Chapter of the Oklahoma Archeological Society (audience, 30). He gave a half-day program on the archeology of Van Winkle's Mill to an Arkansas Master Naturalist class at the new Hobbs State Park visitor's center (audience, 45). Jeane gave programs in Bell Oaks, Springhill, Louisiana (audience, 27), and the Drew County Museum in Fordyce, Arkansas (audience, 18), and did an artifact identification session (audience, 8) at the Drew County Museum in Fordyce, Arkansas.
- **Consultation**. Brandon provided consultation and advisory services to the Helena Civil War Interpretation Group, the Prairie DeAnn Battlefield Preservation group, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, and Historic Washington State Park. Jeane provided consultation and advisory services to the Louisiana Culture and Recreation archeologist Jeff Girard on the location of two plantation slave quarters and the location of the Colfax Riot, Grant Parish, Louisiana. Jeane provided consultation and advisory services to the Little Rock District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on protecting and recording exposed archeological sites during winter drawdown of Millwood Lake, Sevier County, Arkansas. Jeane provided *gratis* construction monitoring and report writing for a City of Camden/Federal Emergency Management Agency project at the Civil War Water Battery at Sandy Beach Park in Camden, Arkansas.
- African American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Station staff provided various assistance to documentation and preservation efforts for Paraloma Cemetery (Sevier County), Cleveland and Walker Cemeteries (Miller County), Hickory Ridge, Macedonia, Beach Hill and Stephens Seminary Cemeteries (Ouachita County), Washington Hill Cemetery (Nevada County), St. Luke, Andersen, and Plainview Cemeteries (Columbia County), Carlock Cemetery (Ashley County), and Cobb, Caledonia, Ebenezer/Caledonia Church, El Bethel, and Hopewell Cemeteries (Union and Columbia Counties). Jeane directed an Eagle Scout project to clean up Fellowship Cemetery in Columbia County.

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- Kadohadacho Chapter. The SAU research station hosted meetings for the Kadohadacho Chapter of the Society. Dr. Brandon wrote, printed, and distributed the monthly *Kadohadacho News*. Seven monthly meetings were held in the 2009–10 year and open laboratory days were held on Wednesdays throughout the year.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Brandon gave talks to the Toltec (Little Rock), Tunican (Monticello), and Arkansas River Valley (Morrilton) Chapters of the Arkansas Archeological Society (combined audiences, 95). Jeane gave a talk to the Ouachita (Hot Springs) Chapter (audience, 30).
- **Training & Certification Program**. Brandon taught the Research Design seminar during the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds, served as an excavation area supervisor, and gave an evening lecture to Program participants. Jeane assisted with excavations, logistics, records, and other needs during the Training Program.

## **Volunteer Hours**

• Volunteers contributed 543 hours to station research projects in the field and laboratory.

# Arkansas State University, Jonesboro

Dr. Juliet Morrow, Station Archeologist Shaun McGaha, Station Assistant (through March 2010)

The Jonesboro research station is located on the Arkansas State University campus, where the station archeologist teaches in the Department of Criminology, Sociology, Geology and Social Work. The ASU research station territory includes 15 counties of northeastern Arkansas. American Indian cultural development from 12,000 B.C. to historic times and early Euroamerican settlements are represented in the archeological record. Among the well-known sites are the Dalton period Sloan site—the oldest known cemetery in North America and the King Mastodon, which was featured in *National Geographic* magazine. A large number of sites date from the scientifically critical transition that occurred about 10,000 years ago between the Ice Age (Pleistocene) and modern (Holocene) climatic regimes. Geographically, the ASU station incorporates the eastern border of the Ozark Plateau and the vast lowland areas of the Mississippi River basin and its tributaries. Station territory thus provides ideal natural laboratories for the study of diverse adaptations in Arkansas prehistory.

## News & Research

#### Harter Knoll (31N54)

Harter Knoll is located near the confluence of the Strawberry and the Black rivers, a very strategic area for people who wanted to exploit both bottomland resources and the upland resources of the Ozark escarpment, and also have easy access to both rivers via Caney Creek. In June 2007, farmer and landowner Terry Melton invited Dr. Morrow to visit Harter Knoll and one other site. The Harter Knoll site has been farmed since the late 1800s by the Melton family. Unfortunately, it also has been the target of vandals who dig for artifacts and in the process destroy human graves.

The first published account of the site was by antiquarian C. B. Moore, who described Harter Knoll in 1908 as a mound of rich, dark soil about 3.5 ft (1 m) high and 115 ft (35 m) in diameter. In the midden he encountered hammerstones, a few pottery sherds, and 13 stone "arrowpoints and knives" along with other debris. He and his team dug 13 test holes, of which some were enlarged to reveal a total of 21 poorly preserved burials. Moore found that the burials were mostly flexed and occurred from near the surface all the way to the base of the mound. The presence of post holes and other features, along with bits of iron and glass, indicated to Moore that an historic Anglo-American structure had at one time occupied the mound. Only three burials contained grave goods. Burial 7 was described as an adolescent in a flexed position lying on the left side. Shell beads were located near the pelvis or wrists of this individual. Burial 18 contained, at the knee, a prism-shaped (triangular with rounded corners) atl atl weight made from altered igneous rock. Burial 20 was lying in a tightly flexed position on the right side with shell beads near the pelvis and at the neck, including two tubular claystone beads each about 1.25 inches long.

In 1973 John House described Harter Knoll as having a well-developed midden about 82 ft (25 m) in diameter and about 2.3 ft (70 cm) in thickness. He speculated that the soil was dark possibly because hogs had been previously penned up at the site, as was the case for Little Turkey Hill. According to his 1973 site report, some artifacts were observed outside of the immediate site area along the old natural levee of Black River. The landowner at the time of the 1973 survey, Raymond Melton (Terry Melton's grandfather) told John that a man (likely C. B. Moore) did a lot of digging at the site around 1910. John's surface collection included five projectile points, three bifaces, and one large flake tool, and seven pottery sherds. Based on John House's 1973 surface collection, the site was occupied during the Late Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian periods.

From this past work it is clear that there was something special about these site locations during the Late Archaic period. The presence of pottery and stone tools indicates the site was re-inhabited during the Woodland period, perhaps because of its elevation above the floodplain, which came about as a result of midden build-up during the Late Archaic. Sparse shell-tempered ceramic sherds indicate a minor Mississippian period occupation as well.

The site was badly looted in April of 2009, and Morrow documented the results of that event. Terry Melton asked the ASU station to investigate the site. Due to the known
presence of human burials, Morrow coordinated with the NAGPRA representative of the Quapaw Tribe and wrote a plan of action. The goal was to place several test units at the site to determine the occupational history and assess the damage that has occurred from repeated vandalism over an extended time period. Morrow and her crew initiated test excavations on June 8, 2009. Three test units were placed near the apex of the knoll. They mapped these and took the plow zone off with shovels. So much shell was encountered, the crew spent far more time mapping than excavating. They worked sporadically throughout the summer and fall with help from several volunteers and students and made a few significant discoveries.

One burial (Feature 1) encountered in Test Unit 3 is potentially 4000 years old. Williams points are the primary diagnostic artifact and several are possibly associated with Feature 1. This decapitated male was buried on his right side. The head had been removed prior to burial. This is consistent with Archaic burial practices in the Midsouth, wherein individuals, generally males, were decapitated prior to interment. One wonders if the use of "medicine skull bundles," a practice among Native American groups in the northern Plains, was used in this region. Disc and gastropod shell beads are ubiquitous throughout the deposit. Fieldwork in 2009 was minimal due to rainy weather most of the summer and fall. Not much was accomplished in the three 2 x 2 m units (dug to just below the plow zone in Test Units 1 and 2 and to about 34 cm below surface in Test Unit 3). Fortunately the crew removed Feature 1 before vandals came in one night and completely ruined all three excavation units sometime between Dec. 25, 2009 and Jan. 10, 2010. The Independence County Sheriff's Office was notified and an incident report was made out. Evidence that the vandals worked at night included several artifacts found lying on the surface near Test Unit 1.

Plans are to return for more work at the site when it becomes possible to provide a 24-hour guard on the excavations. With a great deal of student help, 95% of the recovered Harter Knoll artifacts and ecofacts have been processed and inventoried. Several flotation samples taken during the project have not yet been processed.

#### The Eagle Eye Site (3PO540)

In April 2010, with help from many ASU students, Morrow made a controlled surface collection of the Eagle Eye site, 3PO540, slated to be land leveled in September 2010. About 95% of the artifacts are inventoried and in a computer database so that distribution maps of the surface artifacts can be created. By examining the distribution of certain classes of artifacts we might be able to say what lies beneath the surface (houses, hearths, etc).

The site was first recorded by Dr. Trent Lamb, who has over several decades provided the Arkansas Archeological Survey with a great deal of site information, particularly in the Eastern Lowlands. Trent donated a small collection of artifacts from the surface of the site to the Survey. When Morrow examined his surface collection she noted at least two kinds of ceramics—one kind that typically signals Late Woodland period occupation and one that signals Early Mississippian occupation. This was exciting!

Thanks to Miss Carrie Wilson, who spoke with the landowner on our behalf and explained to him the importance of the site to our understanding of the history of the region, Morrow gained permission to examine the site. Working closely with the owner, who also farms the site, Morrow and her crew set up a 20-meter grid across the most artifact-dense area of the site. There was just enough time to get the 47 grid squares surface collected before the site was planted in beans in late April.

Student Participation. This project taught ASU students from Morrow's Introduction to Cultural Anthropology and Archaeology courses how and why archeologists surface collect artifacts and what the artifacts can tell us about what is below the ground. Students who participated also learned directly about the significance of the site to local and regional history, and how to build a database of information with which to address questions about cultural processes. One dedicated student, Shelley Bonner, took it upon herself to learn how to identify and classify ceramics so that she could inventory the thousands of ceramic sherds that were surface collected from Eagle Eye. Morrow identified the lithics (stone tools and fragments) and taught Shelley how to identify those too. David Barrentine, a fine arts major at ASU, entered nearly the entire inventory into EXCEL.

During the period A.D. 700 to 900, widespread adoption of shell-tempered ceramics took place across the Central Mississippi Valley. There are many questions surrounding this major technological innovation. To date we have no clear understanding of Late Woodland or Early Mississippian settlement patterns, nor do we have good data that enable us to recreate the subsistence activities, trade relationships, and so on from these periods. Few sites of these time intervals have been excavated, and archeologists content themselves with broad generalizations about the "Early Mississippian culture" based on those few sites. By working with farmers in the region and with amateur archeologists like Dr. Trent Lamb, we can gain excavated samples that will allow for a more detailed view of the regional variability of Early Mississippian in Northeast Arkansas.

#### The Bruce Catt Site (3CY91)

With permission from a non-resident landowner, we were able to excavate features that were land-leveled at a site on the Cache River between May 7 and June 10, 2010. The farmer who was leveling and renting the land, allowed us a little over a month at the site before they had



Student volunteer Shelley Bonner at the Bruce Catt site. The dark stain in the ground is Feature 310, a large pit, the last feature excavated during the salvage operation.

to take the area down 6 feet to grow rice. Morrow named the site after him in thanks for his cooperation. Her crew documented 310 features and salvaged over 250 Native American trash pits and house posts. The site contains primarily Early Mississippian village deposits with an intense historic component that dates prior to 1850 based on hand forged nails that were recovered from archeological deposits. Large well-preserved posts from what may have been a pole barn were observed and documented. The site was occupied up until the mid-1900s judging from a pop bottle at the top of an oval-shaped historic trash pit. Jessica Howe and Tim Mulvihill mapped the site at different times. Mike Evans is in the process of preparing a site map by meshing the two data sets together. Many students and CMVAS Chapter members and Arkansas Archeological Society members helped excavate the site. It was surprising to find so large a site in the northern Cache River Basin.

Society member Danny Moore (one of our station advisors) provided storage space for rubbermaid boxes full of soil. The primary occupation of the Bruce Catt site appears to date around A.D. 900 based on comparison with other sites in the Cache Basin that have similar pottery from radiocarbon dated contexts. The vast majority of ceramic sherds that have been processed so far are from flared rim jars tempered with shell; some are red-slipped and would be classified as Varney Red (named after the Varney site in southeast Missouri). A very small minority of cordmarked pottery sherds have been washed or waterscreened. These could indicate an earlier occupation at the site or they may represent vessels that were traded.

A complete shell-tempered ceramic elbow pipe was recovered from a small shallow trash pit. Chipped stone debitage, chert cores, an anvil stone, truncated pestles, grinding implements, hammer stones, and one Scallorn point fragment have been processed so far. Shell is abundant at the site and several gastropod beads were recovered. The floral and faunal preservation is excellent.

A small number of animal bones from the Bruce Catt site were identified during the Society Training Program Zooarchaeology seminar at Toltec Mounds in June 2010. These indicate that aside from the ever present deer bones, there is an abundance of small mammals (mink, rabbit, raccoon, skunk, etc.), aquatic fauna (turtles, fish, snakes), and birds (owl, woodpecker?, turkey, etc.). Burned *Equisetum* (horsetail), hickory nut shells, and numerous fragments of charred wood have been recovered. Radiocarbon samples were removed from both pit features and structural post holes. Flotation samples were taken from most pit features in order to recover the smallest of seeds, bones, chert debitage, and other micro materials. Analysis of the floral and faunal remains from the Bruce Catt site will shed light on the subsistence practices of the Early Mississippian villagers and their environment in the upper Cache Basin.

#### Old Town Ridge (3CG41)

Old Town Ridge is a fortified Middle Mississippian village in an area of northeastern Arkansas known as Buffalo Island. Morrow has studied the site for a couple of years, along with Jami Lockhart, the Survey's GIS and remote sensing specialist, and station assistant Shaun McGaha. ASU students have helped with fieldwork. It is the only large site of the time period that Morrow has investigated east of Crowley's Ridge. This year Shaun recorded attributes on decorated ceramics from Old Town Ridge. There are plans to do more at the site, but not immediately. Jami Lockhart submitted a coauthored paper to the journal *Southeastern Archaeology*. Charred nutshell from a bucket auger sample at Old Town Ridge was radiocarbon dated (2 sigma calibrated) at A.D. 1290 to 1420, which confirms the Middle Mississippian date. The context of the nutshell is a hearth in the center of an approximately 4 x 4 m wall trench house. An article on Old Town Ridge is being developed.

#### Krebs Place (3CG453)

Kreb's Place is a possible Wilson phase fortified village containing the remains of numerous wall-trench houses. Salvage excavations took place in 2008, with landowner cooperation, as the site was being land-leveled. Archeobotanist Katy Parker identified persimmon, maize, hickory nutshell, and several tree species from Feature 10 at 3CG453. Morrow prioritized the flotation samples from this site to be completed before those from Bruce Catt (3CY91), especially because the medical waste bags used to contain some of the Krebs Place samples will begin to degrade within another year. Krebs Place artifact and ecofact assemblages are sorted and ready to be inventoried and analyzed. Following the departure of station assistant Shaun McGaha, getting the flotation samples processed slowed considerably.



Constant volunteer Robert Taylor and Dr. Morrow in the ASU station laboratory. The large partially reconstructed vessel rim is from the Zebree site.

# **ASU Station Personnel**

Juliet Morrow (Ph.D., Washington University in St. Louis, 1996) is Research Station Archeologist for ASU/Jonesboro with the Survey and Research Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville. Prior to joining the Survey in 1997, she had a position with the Office of the State Archeologist of Iowa's Highway Archeology Program, and worked for various private research firms and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Morrow's background in earth sciences provides expertise in geoarcheology, geomorphology, and site formation processes. Much of her archeologic cal research has focused on the Paleoindian period and multidisciplinary studies of hunter-gatherer lifeways, stone tool technology, and Pleistocene/Early Holocene ecology.

Shaun McGaha (B.A. in Psychology, Arkansas State University, 2007) met Dr. Morrow at the emergency salvage excavation at Blowing Cave and began volunteering in the station lab. Shaun was accepted into the McNair Achievement Program at ASU and chose to work with Dr. Morrow and Robert Taylor for his research project (neutron activation analysis on pottery sherds and clay samples from the Greenbrier site). He was hired as station assistant in May 2007. He resigned at the end of March, 2010.

## Teaching & Higher Education

- **Teaching**. Morrow taught Introduction to Archeology (15 students) and Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (45 students) at ASU. In Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, she mentored human osteology studies by April Jones, a graduate of ASU who was accepted in the graduate program in Forensic Science at Georgetown University for Fall 2010. Ms. Jones was taking all the forensics courses she could and attempting to gain experience before beginning her graduate studies. She identified material from the Harter Knoll site and wrote a report on her findings. Morrow also assisted a student in the broadcast journalism program with a documentary about archeology in northeast Arkansas.
- ASU Museum and Campus. Morrow provided advice and assistance to the ASU Museum during Archeology Month 2010 and collaborated on organizing a day of activities for all ages. She also helped the Museum with a NAGPRA grant. Morrow gave an interview to KASU radio about early plant domestication in northeast Arkansas.

## **Professional Service**

• Morrow provided peer reviews of articles submitted to *Journal of Archaeological Science* and *American Antiquity*. She also reviewed a grant proposal submitted to the National Science Foundation.

### Public Service & Outreach

- **Programs & Presentations**. Morrow gave presentations to the Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc. annual meeting at the old courthouse in Pocahontas (audience, 50); a Master Naturalists class at Bull Shoals State Park (audience, 27); and Batesville Rotary Club. She assisted Robert Taylor with preparation of a PowerPoint presentation for Green County Historic Society's heritage fair (audience, 20). Morrow participated in Artifact Identification events at Parkin Archeological State Park and at ASU Museum during Archeology Month. At ASU Museum, she helped coordinate a full day of events for all ages; over 200 people attended.
- **Missouri Archaeological Society**. Morrow organized a Paleoindian Symposium for the Society at Thousand Hills State Park near Kirksville, Missouri and presented a paper. She attended the Society's annual meeting and presented a paper on Harter Knoll.
- Media & Site Conservation. Morrow gave an interview to Nicholas Phillips for an article on the connection between looting at archeological sites and illegal drugs. She met with Jessica Crawford of The Archaeological Conservancy and a landowner concerning possible acquisition of sites by the Conservancy.
- Morrow judged the earth and atmospheric sciences category at the Northeast Arkansas Regional Science Fair.

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Central Mississippi Valley Chapter.** The station hosts Chapter meetings from September through May with monthly speakers. Morrow presented the program in September (audience, 45). Throughout the year the station provided opportunities for volunteers who wish to assist with fieldwork and laboratory processing.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Morrow gave a talk to the Central Arkansas River Valley Chapter (Morrilton). Both Morrow and McGaha presented papers at the Society's annual meeting in Eureka Springs.
- **Training & Certification Program**. Morrow taught the "Identification of Animal Bones from Archeological Sites" seminar during the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds.

## Volunteer Hours

• Volunteers contributed 1950 hours to station research projects in the field and laboratory.

# **Blytheville Research Station**

Dr. Claudine Payne, Station Archeologist Marion Haynes, Station Assistant

The Blytheville research station is located at the Arkansas Aeroplex on the decommissioned Eaker Air Force Base, now owned by the City of Blytheville. The station is responsible for archeological research in Crittenden and Mississippi counties in northeast Arkansas, which together contain well over 1000 recorded sites, including four American Indian sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places—Chickasawba Mound, Eaker, Nodena, and Zebree; Eaker and Nodena are also National Historic Landmarks. A site on Bradley Ridge is the probable location of the American Indian town of Pacaha, visited by Hernando de Soto in 1541. The former air base property incorporates a number of significant, well-preserved archeological sites. One focus of the station is a program of cooperative research with geologists to identify and date ancient earthquake features in order to better understand the frequency and periodicity of earthquakes in this seismically active region, and to study ways in which earthquakes affect archeological sites.

# News & Research

# Mississippian Architecture and Community Patterns

Research on Mississippian community patterns along the Lower Pemiscot Bayou continued with processing of materials recovered from the Eaker site. Claudine Payne worked on the Area I report and submitted a progress report at the end of 2009. For the third year, Claudine used Eaker Controlled Surface Collection material as a class project in the Lab Seminar at the Arkansas Archeological Society Training Program. This year the class completed recording information about the distribution of pottery, chipped stone, and polished pebbles, and Claudine created maps showing those distributions.

In early 2010, Tim Mulvihill (UAFS station archeologist) and Marion Haynes mapped the Eaker site and the Early Mississippian Dell site (3MS59) with the new robotic total station. The Survey's remote sensing specialist Jami Lockhart had planned to carry out geophysics at Eaker to fill in gaps in our earlier work, but the gradiometer needed repairs and was not available. We rescheduled for the fall.

Claudine and Marion also collaborated with David Dye, Charles McNutt, Chet Walker, Jami Lockhart, geographer Greg Taff, and seismologist Tish Tuttle to prepare a grant proposal for the National Science Foundation. The project, called Community Organization in Pre-Columbian Arkansas and Missouri, will examine Late Mississippian sites along the Little River-Pemiscot Bayou drainage. We propose to collect information at multiple scales to investigate community patterns.

### Lake Jackson Research

At the end of summer 2009, Claudine finished and submitted her article on the Lake Jackson site ("The

Rise of the Lake Jackson Chiefs") for the Jerald Milanich festschrift volume edited by Parkin station archeologist Jeff Mitchem. In the winter of 2010, Claudine researched the nature of heirlooms in Mississippian society and addressed the issue of curated items buried long after they were made. This was for a paper ("The Disposal of Heirlooms and the End of Memory at Lake Jackson") presented at the Society for American Archaeology's 2010 annual conference in the symposium "James Brown and the Impact of Cahokia in the Mississippian Southeast." The papers in that symposium are planned to be developed into a book.

# Rehabilitating Archeological Collections from the Eastern St. Francis Basin

Claudine worked on a grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities' Humanities Collections and Reference Resources program (deadline July 15, 2010). To prepare the proposal, she conducted extensive research on the management of archeological collections. If funded, the station will be able to hire a Collections Manager for three years and put the 1221 Mississippi County accessioned collections in good order, as well as create finding aids for the collections.

#### Earthquakes and Archeology

Marion Haynes consulted with seismologist Martitia Tuttle regarding possible future research along Buckhorn Ridge and plans to map Pemiscot Bayou using high resolution airborne laser mapping (LiDAR). In July 2009, Marion attended the Arkansas Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council meeting held at Arkansas Northeastern College. After the formal meetings he led a field trip including about 35 first responders, geologists, and other attendees of the Council meeting. They visited a site in which sandblows interact with archeological features. Marion also hosted a tour of the Blytheville research station for an Earthquake Insight tour group in October.

#### **Blytheville Public Outreach**

Public outreach is ongoing. Claudine gave four presentations, two tours of the station, and one media interview, advised a local author, and attended a cemetery preservation workshop. She also prepared four small exhibits and helped Marion prepare two PowerPoint talks. Marion gave two presentations, one tour of the station, and one tour of an earthquake site, and participated in Artifact ID Days at Parkin and Arkansas State University Museum. We also staffed an Artifact ID booth at the Leachville Watermelon Festival and attended a Dyess town meeting about ASU's plans for the restoration of the 1930s Dyess Colony. This was a WPA resettlement project and the boyhood home of Johnny Cash.

#### **Delta Gateway Museum**

The third year of the Delta Gateway Museum Commission began with the renovations to the historic Kress Building almost finished. In August, Claudine, as Vice-Chair of the Commission, along with Chair Ruth Hale and Secretary-Treasurer David Lyttle, attended the last of the HELP workshops sponsored and funded by the Mid-America Arts Alliance. As the fall progressed, Claudine attended more City Council and Parks and Recreation Committee meetings as the Commission attempted to move into the next phase, that of hiring a Founding Director. Ultimately, we had to wait until the City's new fiscal year (beginning Jan. 1).

The Commission planned and carried out a community event, "Christmas at the Kress," on December 12 to raise awareness of the new museum-to-be. Claudine prepared three exhibits for the event: "Why Build a Museum?," "The Delta Gateway Museum is Born," and "The SEED Project – Interior Design Ideas for the Delta Gateway Museum." In the spring a Founding Director was hired—Leslie Hester started work in May. Over the summer, Claudine worked with Leslie to research possible grant opportunities. They also prepared and submitted a grant proposal to create traveling teaching boxes on the eight themes of the Museum.

#### **KIPP School Collaboration**

Maisie Wright, the director of the new KIPP school in Blytheville (which opened July 2010), contacted the Blytheville station about collaborating on an archeology program for the students. Ms. Wright wants to bring archeology into the curriculum, beginning with 5th graders in the first year, and adding another grade each year. Claudine and Marion met with her in December to talk about ideas, and encouraged her to focus on historic cemeteries as a way to engage the kids and get them out into the environment. Claudine consulted with and advised her on several later occasions. The newly hired teachers toured the station in May. Marion and Claudine attended the school's grand opening June 24, and made plans for the new students to visit the station in July.



Claudine Payne teaching the Basic Lab seminar at the Arkansas Archeological Society & Survey Training Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, June 2010.

# **Blytheville Station Personnel**

**Claudine Payne** (Ph.D., University of Florida, 1994) is Research Station Archeologist with the Survey and Research Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas – Fayetteville. She joined the Survey in 1999 to run the Blytheville research station, which was created in response to community interest. Previously, she taught anthropology at the University of Florida, the University of Illinois at Champaign–Urbana, and Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia. Her research specialization in late Precolumbian archeology of the Southeast, especially political organization of chiefdoms, is ideal for the Blytheville station territory, which was home to a thriving and complex American Indian society 500 years ago.

Marion Haynes joined the Survey in 1999. A lifelong resident of the Blytheville area, he attended Southern Baptist College and the College of the Ozarks before returning to family farm operations in northern Mississippi County. Over many years he volunteered with Survey archeologists to record and preserve sites in the county, and assisted U.S. Geological Survey studies of the New Madrid Seismic Zone. From 1995–1997 he worked for Mid-Continental Research Associates, a private firm, on archeological survey within the Eaker air base property.

## **Professional Service**

- Payne provided peer review of an article submitted to the journal *Southeastern Archaeology*. She reviewed a grant proposal for National Science Foundation. She also supplied book reviews for *The Missouri Archaeologist* and *Museum Anthropology*.
- Payne served on the Southeastern Archaeological Conference Public Outreach Committee and reviewed a proposal to SEAC's Public Outreach grant program.
- Haynes is a member of the Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council. Both Haynes and Claudine Payne attended the Council's semi-annual meeting in July.
- Payne attended the annual meeting of the Arkansas Museums Association, as part of her work on behalf of the Delta Gateway Museum Commission.

## Public Service & Outreach

- **Programs & Presentations**. Claudine Payne gave talks to 7th and 8th grade students at Arkansas Northeastern College Career Day (audience, 150); Blytheville Rotary Club (audience, 35), and members of the State Parks Recreation and Travel Commission (audience, 30). She led tours of the station for the Blytheville-Gosnell Chamber of Commerce tourism committee (audience, 6) and a group of KIPP school teachers (audience, 4). Marion Haynes gave talks to Westminster Village's Thursday morning coffee group (audience, 30) and the Blytheville Kiwanis (audience, 20). He led tours of the station or archeological sites for attendees of the Governor's Earthquake Advisory Council meeting (audience, 35) and Earthquake Insight (audience, 20). He assisted with two Artifact ID events at Parkin Archeological State Park, and another at the ASU Museum. Claudine and Marion staffed a booth at Leachville's Watermelon Festival.
- Exhibits. From Corn to Cotton: One Thousand Years of Agriculture in the Delta. I-55 Welcome Center, Blytheville (July). Why Build a Museum? Delta Gateway Museum (December). The SEED Project: Interior Design Ideas for the Delta Gateway Museum. Delta Gateway Museum (December). The Delta Gateway Museum is Born. Delta Gateway Museum (December).
- African-American Cemetery Preservation Initiative. Claudine Payne attended a cemetery preservation workshop in Parkin sponsored by the Arkansas Humanities Council. The station consulted with Albert Jones of Southern Tenant Farmers Union Museum in Tyronza about preservation at 3CT47.
- Other Outreach & Consultations. HELP workshop presented by the Mid-America Arts Alliance; Arkansas State University project for restoration of the 1930s Dyess Colony; author Pat Lendennie, for a book on De Soto in the Arkansas Delta; Quapaw Tribal NAGPRA coordinator Carrie Wilson; Blytheville-Gosnell Airport Authority (to route proposed fencing without impact to archeological features).

## Service to the Arkansas Archeological Society

- **Programs & Presentations**. Claudine Payne gave a talk to the Ark-Homa Chapter in Fort Smith (audience, 15).
- **Training & Certification Program**. Claudine Payne taught the Basic Lab seminar during the 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds. Marion Haynes assisted with excavations, logistics, flotation, and other needs during the Program.

# Sponsored Research Program

Dr. Robert C. Mainfort, Jr., Administrator Kathleen Cande and Randall Guendling, Project Archeologists Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, and Aden Jenkins, Research Assistants Lindi Holmes, Report Editor and Office Manager (through November 2009)

The Sponsored Research Program (SRP) conducts externally funded research based on grants, contracts, and cost-share agreements. Projects range in scope from documenting cultural resources within small areas in Arkansas, to resource overviews of large regions of the United States, to assisting with interpretation at state parks. To date, SRP has completed nearly 1000 studies within Arkansas and neighboring states. SRP provides service to the University community through teaching, graduate committee membership and advising, and occasional employment opportunities for qualified students as field and laboratory technicians. SRP staff members routinely serve as consultants to various state and federal agencies. The research assistants are invaluable contributors to research projects across the statewide program, contributing to fieldwork at all research stations, and performing various specialized laboratory and computer tasks.

# News & Research

#### **Davidsonville Historic State Park**

Sponsored Research Program staff were asked to assist Arkansas State Parks Exhibits staff in creating new wayside and visitor center exhibits for Davidsonville Historic State Park (Randolph County, Arkansas). The existing exhibits are more than twenty years old, and do not reflect new information from more recent Survey excavations at Davidsonville between 2004 and 2009.

SRP staff (Cande, Evans, Jenkins, and Pebworth), and Survey education specialist Mary Kwas wrote text and provided images for eleven wayside (outdoor) exhibit panels, and three audio scripts. Topics for the wayside exhibits include the Davidsonville town site, county seat town, courthouse square, county jail, house lots, commerce and business, public house, first postal stop, transportation, decline and abandonment, and how archeology uncovers the past. We also suggested appropriate locations for these signs around the edge of the public square at Davidsonville.

Text, artifacts, and images also were provided for two indoor floor-to-ceiling panel displays, 10 feet long and 11 feet long, that will be placed in one corner of the visitor center. The main panel is titled "Frontier Future in Arkansas's Past." On the facing wall, there are six smaller panels featuring images, text, and excavated artifacts interpreting the following topics: Architectural Remains, Taming the Frontier, Transportation and Commerce, A Place for Entertainment, Personal Expression, and Household Goods. A corner cabinet at the junction of the two walls features Ceramics for Many Purposes. In addition, 16 audio scripts called "Voices of Davidsonville" were created. These short recorded quotations describe the land and rivers, county seat towns, a court day, and businesses in early nineteenth century Arkansas.

Planning and development of the new signs and exhibits included multi-day meetings with Parks exhibit staff Dorothy Meeks and Keith Martin at the Survey during February and March.

#### **Conserving Arkansas's Bluff Shelters**

A project funded by the Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council (ANCRC) called "Documenting and Preserving Arkansas's Bluff Shelters" has two goals: to compile, update and evaluate the currently available information about recorded archeological sites at bluff shelters in the state, and to inventory and evaluate the condition of the extensive archeological collections excavated from these sites presently housed in the University of Arkansas Museum Collection Facility. This is one of the outstanding archeological resource areas of Arkansas, and of North America. Many bluff shelter sites were inundated by reservoir construction, but many more are still available for study, though threatened in various ways. Dry bluff shelters especially are known for the preservation of perishable materials, providing an invaluable record of prehistoric material culture and dietary adaptation that is not available at other kinds of sites. This information deserves our careful attention.

The tasks necessary to meet the project goals consisted of evaluating existing information about the sites, evaluation of the collections by a museum conservator, creating an inventory of the collections, and computer data entry. Randall Guendling has been in charge of this project. For site information, an Access database of 1390 archeological sites identified as bluff shelters was compiled from the Arkansas Archeological Survey site files. The database was completed in 2007.

The University of Arkansas Collections General Conservation Assessment was performed by Dr. Vicki Cassman (Conservator, University of Delaware) in July 2006. She made a general survey and evaluation of the facility, the current storage of UA archeological collections, and procedures and handling of archeological collections. A key item of Cassman's report was that a number of artifacts were in unstable condition and required specific attention. Overall, the most pressing need for collections management is re-boxing of all the archeological objects in acidfree archival quality containers, at the same time replacing deteriorated acidic catalog cards with acid-free ones. Some of the unstable objects, like extremely fragile or deteriorating textiles and basketry, will require the attention of trained conservators.

Project archeologist Randall Guendling, assisted by Skye Flynn, inventoried a final count of 263 collections of Bluff Shelter materials. The 263 collections contained 98,893 objects, each counted and described by the archeologists. A generalized descriptive protocol was used for the inventory. Researchers can search the resulting database using multiple parameters for a subset of sites for further analysis. This inventory of previously cataloged collections encountered numerous mistaken identifications and discrepancies, especially in inventories of burials. Solving the discrepancies was time consuming detective work, but was for the most part successful. This was a vital element of the project, bringing the collections into compliance with the federal "Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act" (NAGPRA). The process of relocating and reintegrating objects missing from their proper collections was only partially successful. While some items were found to be misplaced (i.e., stored in a different location), a search of the teaching collections (groups of artifacts from various sites) failed to locate many of the missing items.

Once the artifact information was recorded on paper spreadsheets by the archeologists, the data were then entered into the University of Arkansas Museum Access database, along with other relevant data about the sites and published references if any. Each line of copy edited data representing individual objects or classes of similar objects was subsequently formatted and printed on 3 in x 5 in card stock (called catalog cards) as a separate hard copy of the Bluff Shelter inventory data. A total of 50,383 catalog cards were printed by the end of the grant cycle.

With the end of the three-grant cycle a complete inventory and computerized catalog of bluff shelter materials has been created and archival boxing materials sufficient to box the collections have been purchased. A storage upgrade of the collections in accordance with the conservation plan and handling procedures proposed by Cassman is ongoing. Researchers now have a searchable computer database to locate individual items or classes of objects for study, thus avoiding the risk of additional breakage or possible loss through continued physical handling of the collections. The funding provided by ANCRC has not only guaranteed the preservation of these invaluable collections for the citizens of Arkansas, but made them easily accessible for generations of future scholars who may be able to answer questions about the prehistoric past we cannot even imagine today.

#### Prehistoric Heritage of Northeast Arkansas

Another ANCRC funded project under Randall Guendling's direction, "Preserving the Prehistoric Heritage of Northeast Arkansas," has two goals. The first is to inventory and evaluate the condition of extensive collections from northeast Arkansas that are curated by the University of Arkansas Museum Collections Facility. Much of this material was excavated by the museum during the early 1930s. As part of the inventory process, data for each object or object class is entered into a computerized database. The second goal is to upgrade the collections following the recommendations made by Dr. Cassman in her evaluation of bluff shelter collections under ANCRC Grant 07-006. This will include re-boxing by museum staff into conservation quality storage materials purchased through the grant.

A protocol was adopted that concentrated on large sites that had uncataloged multi-year museum accession numbers. The second half of the grant year was spent inventorying six collections from a single late prehistoric site in Poinsett County, the Hazel site (3P06). This was a large village site with numerous Indian burials initially dug in 1933, again in 1964 in three different areas, in 1967, and finally in 1969. Each separate excavation produced a different "collection" with its own accession number. Taken together, the six accessions constitute one of the largest archeological collections of artifacts from a single site in the museum. Although two important Master's theses have been written using the burial data, none of the other collections had ever been cataloged. In Guendling's opinion, the data from these collections are sufficient to support a third Master's thesis.

Integral to the ongoing inventory of the northeast Arkansas collections is upgrading the storage of objects. In many instances, Hazel site specimens were found to be in their original acidic paper bags just as they were returned from the field. The collections will be boxed at some point in the future, largely through volunteer work, in new acid-free archival quality containers.

To date 3728 catalog records for classes of artifacts, representing tens of thousands of objects, have been generated under this grant. We anticipate that completion of full inventories for the northeast Arkansas sites will be a multiyear (and multi-grant) process. New Grants and Contracts in FY 2009–2010

Project No. & Name	Firm or Agency	Budget
<ul><li>10-06 JacksonportVisitor Center</li><li>11-01 Records of the Arkansas Archeological Survey</li><li>11-02 Prehistoric Heritage of NE Arkansas (Yr 2)</li></ul>	Arkansas Dept. of Parks & Tourism ANCRC ANCRC	\$5,976.46 \$66,466.00 \$80,090.00
Total		\$152,532.46
*ANCRC = Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Coun	cil	

# **SRP** Personnel

**Robert C. Mainfort, Jr.** (Ph.D., Michigan State University, 1977) is Research Archeologist with the Survey and Research Professor of Anthropology, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. He joined the Survey in 1994 as SRP administrator and also serves as Series Editor of Survey Publications. His interests include mortuary studies, archeological systematics, and historical archeology.

Kathleen H. Cande (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1984) joined the Survey in 1987. Her specializations include archeological textile analysis, archival research, collections management, the colonial Southeast, and historical archeology. Ms. Cande also manages and supervises the SRP laboratory.

**Randall L. Guendling** (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1993) has been employed by the Survey since 1981. His specializations include historical archeology, Arkansas history, and prehistoric lithic analysis.

Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, and Aden Jenkins, Research Assistants, contribute varied skills to SRP, the coordinating office, and station research projects, including all phases of archeological fieldwork, flotation and soil sample processing, survey and precision mapping, geophysical imaging, production of CAD and other computer graphics, historic and prehistoric artifact analysis, and conservation of metal artifacts.

Lindi Holmes is SRP office manager and production editor of SRP reports. She also contributes to the Publications Program. She retired at the end of November 2009, after 16 years of service at the Survey and previous years with the History Department.

### SRP Reports Completed in 2009–2010

Cande, Kathleen H.

2010 A Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for a Proposed Visitors Center, Jacksonport State Park (3JA53), Jackson County, Arkansas. Draft Report, Project 10-06. Submitted to the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, Little Rock. 52 pages.

Guendling, Randall L.

- 2009 Archeological Survey of the Batesville Sewer Improvements, Independence County, Arkansas. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Project No. 10-03. Submitted to McGoodwin, Williams and Yates, Fayetteville.
- 2010 A Select Cultural Resources Survey of the Farmington Sewer Line Improvements, Washington County, Arkansas. Final Report, AAS Project No. 10-09. Submitted to McGoodwin, Williams and Yates, Fayetteville.

Mainfort, Robert C., Jr., Kathleen H. Cande, Michael M. Evans, and Jared Pebworth

2010 Phase I Cultural Resources Survey for a Proposed Visitors Center Jacksonport State Park, Jackson County, Arkansas. Management Summary, AAS Project 10-06.

# **SRP** Service Activities

## Teaching & Higher Education

- Mainfort taught ANTH 4243, Archeology of the Midsouth (8 students).
- Cande led tours for UAF Anthropology Department classes in archeology: three tours for 21 students in Fall 2009 and three tours for 50 students in Spring 2010.

## **Professional Service**

- **Peer reviews**. Mainfort reviewed submissions to the journals *American Antiquity, Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology, Southeastern Archaeology,* and *The Arkansas Archeologist*. He also reviewed a manuscript for a university press and a grant proposal submitted to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.
- Mainfort serves on the editorial board of Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology.
- Cande serves as current research editor for Arkansas for the *Southeastern Archaeological Conference Newsletter*, and as current research editor for the Gulf States region for the *Society for Historical Archaeology Newsletter*.
- Cande is a member of the Survey's Publications Committee.
- Mainfort was a judge for the Midwest Archaeological Conference student paper competition.
- **Consultations**. Mainfort served as a consultant to the University of Arkansas Museum, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, and the Department of Arkansas Heritage. Cande served as a consultant to Arkansas State Parks, Davidsonville Historic State Park, Jacksonport State Park, CAST, David Ware (Arkansas Capitol Historian), and Bill Gatewood (Old State House Museum). Pebworth served as a consultant to Black River Technical College and Davidsonville Historic State Park.

## Public Service & Outreach

- Guendling is a permanent member of the Lakeport Plantation Restoration Team
- Evans serves as a member of the Benton County Historical Preservation Committee
- Arkansas Archeological Society. Evans taught the Mapping/Total Station seminar during the 2010 Society/ Survey Training Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park.
- **Programs & Presentations**. Pebworth joined Jerry Hilliard (UAF station) in presenting an Artifact ID Day at Shiloh Museum in Springdale. Pebworth gave tours of the SRP Lab to REACH students from Black River Technical College, Pocahontas, State Parks personnel from Davidsonville Historic State Park, and various local school groups visiting the Survey coordinating office. Pebworth gave two talks to P4 students at Fayetteville Montessori School. Cande was invited to lead a guided tour of the Davidsonville town site for the Arkansas Living History Association (attendance about 30). Cande gave an invited lecture in the Brown Bag Lecture Series at Old State House Museum.

# **Computer Services Program**

Dr. Jami Lockhart, CSP Coordinator & Director of Archaeogeophysical & GIS Applications Deborah Weddle, Information Technology Support & Internet Applications John Samuelsen, Research Assistant

The Survey's Computer Services Program (CSP) is responsible for all aspects of electronic information management, including systems administration, computer operations, equipment purchasing, research, instruction, and user support throughout the organization. Our pioneering computer database for archeological site information (AMASDA) is one of the most comprehensive such applications in the country. The Survey has worked toward an approach that integrates the different data structures and digital tools being used in archeological research and cultural resource management today. Key components of this integrated approach include geographic information systems (GIS), relational database management systems, and exploratory data analysis. CSP provides online access to AMASDA for qualified subscribers and is working to provide web-enabled database access (with some information categories password-protected) for agencies and firms involved with cultural resource management in Arkansas. Our educational websites are maintained in response to public interest as well as agency and research needs. The newest component of the Survey's computer applications program is a full complement of remote sensing technologies for near-surface geophysical prospection on prehistoric and historic archeological sites.

# News & Research

#### **Equipment & Tech Support**

Most of Deborah Weddle's time is devoted to computer systems security, end user support, web server administration, computer repairs and upgrades, and acquisition and deployment of equipment and software. Ms. Weddle is responsible for oversight and maintenance of all day-to-day computer operations for the entire statewide organization.

# Database Administration and Grant Participation

Deborah Weddle and John Samuelsen also contribute to major grant-funded research projects that involve computer and web-based applications. Among recent and ongoing projects these have included a \$425,436 multiyear grant from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for "AMASDA Online," and a \$240,000 multi-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for "American Indian Art, Ritual, and Social Interaction in the Central Arkansas River Valley."

AMASDA Online is a project to expand and update our computerized archeological site and information databases and to make them available via the Internet to authorized users. This new system will be of enormous benefit to various agencies and departments in Arkansas who must conform with environmental regulations and laws that include impact assessment or protection and management of archeological sites—users will be able to do records checks and basic background research on known archeological sites within their project areas without making the trip to Fayetteville, thus saving time and expense.

The Projects database is now part of the online system, though work continues to digitize all project data.

Lockhart continued research and database development using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for statewide site potential modeling associated with the AMASDA Online project. A statewide environmental similarity model for prehistoric sites has been completed. Individual models based on time period, cultural affiliation, and physiographic region are being developed for research purposes, and for use in combination for land planning applications.

#### The Survey on the Web

The Survey's main website <<u>www.arkansasarcheology</u>. <u>org</u>> had approximately 11,168 visits (averaging 931 per month) in 2009–2010. The site provides information for various audiences:

- a section on state laws relevant to archeological resources
- information on Survey publications about archeology and how to order them
- news about excavations and research projects
- instructions on how to contact our research stations, how to report a site, or to request information

- a downloadable Teacher Packet with information about archeology, American Indians, and early Euroamerican explorations and settlement in Arkansas
- state standards for fieldwork and report writing, providing guidelines for private research firms and agency archeologists
- a link to the statewide Arkansas Archeological Society, an organization for people of all ages and walks of life who are interested in prehistoric and historic archeology
- information about volunteer opportunities, including the annual Training Program, a flexible field school at which any interested person can participate in Arkansas archeology under the guidance of Survey professionals

#### **Interactive Educational Websites**

The CSP also maintains two interactive educational websites. *Indians of Arkansas* <<u>http://arkarcheology.</u> <u>uark.edu/indiansofarkansas/index.html</u>> is designed for the public and contains both academic and indigenous perspectives on American Indian history. The site received 4300 unique visitors (12,380 hits) per month in 2009–2010. *Rock Art in Arkansas* <<u>http://arkarcheology.uark.edu/rockart/index.html</u>> is designed for public education on the prehistoric and historic rock art of Arkansas, with articles, picture gallery, classroom ideas, and a searchable database of images and information. The site had 1400 unique visitors (3575 hits) per month.

A new website was developed for the NEH-funded Central Arkansas River Valley project. The CARV project website is unfinished, but already contains progress reports on the project so far. Information about previous research in the River Valley will also be incorporated, for a unified educational presentation.

#### **Service Websites**

Archeological Parks in the U.S. <<u>www.uark.edu/misc/</u> <u>aras</u>> provides information on parks that interpret archeological sites or feature results of archeological investigation. The site received approximately 7120 visits for the year (average 509 per month). We also host a service website for the South Central Historic Archeology Conference and provide a link to the Arkansas Archeological Society on our homepage.

#### **Crenshaw Site Research**

John Samuelsen completed a geophysical study at the Crenshaw site mound center (3MI6) in southwest Arkansas. The remote sensing was conducted in off-mound areas to determine if structures were present. The 3.2-ha survey identified over 100 geometric anomalies, of which more than 50 are possibly structures associated with Late Fourche Maline or Early Caddo occupations. Several possible structures appear to be in rows or other arrangements, including a series organized in a 90 x 85 m "oval." Additional finds include large circular anomalies, 25-48 m across, some without any evidence of structures, suggesting possible compound fences. These combined results present great possibilities for exploring the Early Caddo way of life. Samuelsen won second place in the 2009 Southeastern Archaeological Conference Student Paper Competition for his work at the Crenshaw site.



Possible structures at the Crenshaw site, as identified in Samuelsen's geophysical research, superimposed on topographic data.

# Archaeogeophysical Research – Dr. Jami Lockhart, Director

The Survey's comprehensive program of archaeogeophysical remote sensing applications is directed by **Dr. Jami Lockhart**. As a nondestructive reconnaissance technique that can save time and expense by focusing excavation efforts for the most beneficial result, archaeogeophysical remote sensing has revolutionized archeological methodology and has become an integral part of cultural resource management. The Survey endeavors to remain at the forefront of this development.

# Archaeogeophysical Research Projects, 2009–2010

- **Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil**. In July 2009, Lockhart participated in an interdisciplinary, multicultural research project in the sparsely populated southern Brazilian highlands. Lockhart, along with researchers and students from Brazil, Uruguay, Great Britain, and the U.S., traveled to the Rio Grande do Sul region to study a cultural landscape once inhabited by the twelfth-thirteenth century Taquara/Itarare tradition.
- Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park. Contributors to this project included Toltec Mounds station archeologist Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey, UAFS station archeologist Tim Mulvihill, UAF Ph.D. candidates Duncan McKinnon and John Samuelsen, Survey Director Tom Green, and former Blytheville station AmeriCorps intern Mallory Bador. Approximately 35 percent of the 100 acres composing the site have now been surveyed with one or more geophysical technologies as part of an ongoing plan for site-wide geophysical coverage. This work also contributed to planning and interpretations in advance of excavations during the June 2010 Arkansas Archeological Society's Training Program.
- Carden Bottoms. Gradiometer survey and mapping at Carden Bottoms (3YE25) was performed in advance of subsurface testing as part of a \$240,000 National Endowment for the Humanities grant to study late prehistoric/ protohistoric sites in the Arkansas River Valley. This project included co-principal investigator Dr. George Sabo III, plus WRI station archeologist Dr. Skip Stewart-Abernathy, UAFS station archeologist Tim Mulvihill, UAF station associate Jerry Hilliard, WRI station assistant Larry Porter, UAF Ph.D. candidates John Samuelsen and Duncan McKinnon, Survey archeologists Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, and Aden Jenkins, several Arkansas Archeological Society volunteers, and Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel.
- **Palarm Cemetery**. Geophysical survey of Palarm Cemetery was undertaken as part of the Survey's effort to assist with documentation of historic cemeteries. The cemetery is associated with early, prominent nineteenth century families in Central Arkansas.
- **Oakland Fraternal Cemetery**. Geophysical survey at Oakland Fraternal Cemetery was undertaken to locate the grave of the first African American school teacher in Little Rock, Arkansas.

# **CSP** Personnel

Jami J. Lockhart (Ph.D., Environmental Dynamics, University of Arkansas, 2007) joined the Survey in 1988. His research specializations include integrated data management, GIS, archaeogeophysics, and human-environmental relationships through time.

**Deborah Weddle** (B.A., Anthropology, University of Arkansas, 1993) began working for the Survey as a student archeological laboratory and field technician before moving permanently to the CSP. Her specializations include web application development, GIS, and the use of multimedia technologies for education.

John Samuelsen (M.A., University of Arkansas, 2009) is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology at UAF. His specializations include web application development, database management, GIS, 3D visualizations, and southeastern archeology.



Research in Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Above, Dr. Jami Lockhart operates remote sensing devices in the field. At right, a map generated from magnetic susceptibility data at the Avalino site, with topographic data superimposed. The underground anomalies show a large "enclosure" or built structure dating to the I2th–I3th century.



# **CSP** Service Activities

### Teaching & Higher Education

- Lockhart served on UAF anthropology graduate student John Samuelsen's Master's thesis committee. He provided academic counseling for anthropology graduate student Deborah Raiees-Dana. Lockhart gave guest presentations to Department of Anthropology "Introduction to Archeology" classes, Fall 2009.
- Lockhart demonstrated the Survey's geophysical and GIS projects and capabilities to UA Department of Anthropology visiting Stigler Lecturer Dr. Timothy Pauketat.

### **Professional Service & Activities**

- Lockhart was an invited instructor for a National Park Service workshop, "Current Archeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigation in the 21st Century," at Knife River National Historic Site in North Dakota. May 24–28, 2010.
- Lockhart is a co-principal investigator (with Dr. George Sabo III and Dr. Andrea Hunter) of the Survey's \$240,000 grant from the Collaborative Research Program of the National Endowment for the Humanities to support a three-year study of American Indian art, ritual, and social interaction in the central Arkansas River Valley.
- Lockart provided: geophysical software and image interpretation support for Dr. Andrew Mickelson (Assistant Professor of Archaeology, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Memphis); geophysical imagery for Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park (Arkansas Parks and Tourism) personnel for use in interpretive signage; a gradiometer survey and map of the Carden Bottoms site (3YE25) in advance of National Resource Conservation Service plans to take the site out of cultivation for permanent hardwood plantation (with Dr. George Sabo III, Dr. Skip Stewart-Abernathy, Tim Mulvihill, Jerry Hilliard, Larry Porter, John Samuelsen, Duncan McKinnon, Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, Aden Jenkins, Arkansas Archeological Society volunteers, and NRCS personnel).
- Lockhart served on the Survey's Publications Committee.

### Public Service & Outreach

- Invited Presentations by Dr. Lockart included: a geophysical remote sensing workshop at the 2010 "To Bridge a Gap" Conference, which was sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and hosted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Tulsa, OK; talks at the Arkansas Cemetery Symposium, hosted by Searcy County Cemetery Association in Marshall, AR (November 2009) and Arkansas Cemetery Symposium II, at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center in Little Rock, AR (March 2010).
- **Programs & Presentations**. Lockhart gave talks to the Ko-ko-çi Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society and to American Indian students participating in an NSF-funded program at the Survey, "Research Experience for Undergraduates".
- **Media**. Lockhart appeared in *Silent Storytellers*, an original documentary produced by the Arkansas Educational Television Network (AETN) that explores the history, culture, and importance of preserving Arkansas cemeteries.

# Office of the Registrar

Lela Donat, Survey Registrar Marian Kunetka, Assistant Registrar Student employees (part-time): Teka McGlothlin (undergraduate) Duncan McKinnon, Leslie Walker (Ph.D. candidates in Anthropology)

The Survey Registrar is responsible for reviewing, processing, and curating all archeological site data in Arkansas. The registrar manages and maintains all paper, photographic, microfilm, and electronic records of archeological sites, projects, and collections; oversees encoding of all new and updated site information in the various digital databases; and assists and regulates access to records and collections by government agencies, private firms, professional colleagues, and students engaged in archeological research in Arkansas. The office also maintains a research library and a map library, and participates in the Survey/UA Department of Anthropology student internship program.

# News & Activities

#### **Managing the State's Site Files**

The registrar's office spends most of its time reviewing and encoding site forms, reports, and images for the various electronic databases; reviewing accession paperwork, evaluating and curating new archeological collections; and reviewing and encoding the paperwork associated with collections.

The AMASDA (Automated Management of Archeological Site Data in Arkansas) database is a potent research tool that can be linked to various GIS programs. Entering data daily keeps this resource current. This year 745 new sites were recorded, bringing the total for the state of Arkansas to 44, 667. New information for 398 previously recorded sites (revisited by various persons during the year) was also added. New archeological projects numbered 173 this year, bringing the total projects listed in AMASDA to 6036. Finally, 21 archeological collections were accepted for curation.

#### **Assistance to Researchers & Agencies**

Another major function of the office is assisting private archeological contractors, state and federal agencies, University of Arkansas faculty, staff, and students, the 11 Survey research stations, and others performing legitimate research in the state.

Approximately 211 researchers visited the office during FY 2009–2010. In addition, the office received about 245 requests for site information via telephone, email, or fax. These contacts are primarily from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, the State Historic Preservation Office, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Memphis, Vicksburg, and Little Rock Districts), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the National Forest service,

New Sites Recorded	745	Total no. of sites in Arkansas
New Data for Known Sites	398	site files: 44,667
Access to Site Records	211	
Collections Accessioned	21	
New Projects Entered in AMASDA	173	Total no. of projects in AMASDA: 6036

primarily the Ozark-St. Francis and Ouachita Forests. Responses were by email, fax, telephone, or post.

In the course of the year, the registrar's office also assisted about 35 private firms doing research in Arkansas. A comprehensive list is provided on page 92.

#### **Teaching Service**

The registrar's office conducted tours of its facilities for students enrolled in "Approaches to Archeology" classes at UAF during fall and spring semesters. The office also worked with students in Dr. Tom Green's "Cultural Resource Management" class (11 students, Spring 2010); each student learned how to use the site files and databases to do a records check by conducting a review of archeological records and reports for a specific project. Anthropology Ph.D. candidate Barbara Farley (seated) listens to Caddo Tribe NAGPRA representative Bobby Gonzalez during a meeting at the Survey office to discuss Ms. Farley's research on human remains from the Crenshaw site.



Office staff also assisted students (undergraduates, master's students, and Ph.D. candidates) with their respective projects for class work or thesis research. Often student projects become part of the permanent record. For example, Ph.D. candidate Pritam Chowdhury, as part of his research on the Ferguson site in southwestern Arkansas, has scanned hundreds of site records—slides, oversized site drawings, and maps. These remain as part of the digital site records, and Chowdhury's research amounts to volunteer service in the registrar's office.

The Survey was able to employ several UA students in the registrar's office. Teka McGlothlin (UAF anthropology major) is a work-study/hourly employee. Ph.D. candidates Leslie Walker and Duncan McKinnon were employed on grant funds.

#### **Funded Research**

The registrar's office pursues outside funding to support several projects for upgrading and improving database delivery and collections management.

National Park Service NAGPRA. \$73,769 in funds was awarded in the summer of 2006 for a project whose primary objective is to determine cultural affiliation of detached human crania and mandibles excavated years ago at the (Caddo) Crenshaw site in Miller County. Ms. Barbara Farley, anthropology Ph.D. candidate at UAF, is documenting and inventorying the skeletal elements of the 396 crania and mandibles and the 19 known Caddo skeletons from the site. Results of isotopic analysis to determine region of origin of the human bones were incorporated into Ms. Farley's report. In late October, Ms. Farley met with representatives from the Caddo Nation to discuss the results of the isotopic study. She also presented her findings at the spring 2010 Caddo Conference. The Park Service has allowed an extension for the final report on the grant until December 2010.

AHTD "AMASDA Online." A three-year grant from the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department beginning in January 2007 made available \$425,436 to upgrade the AMASDA archeological information database system and provide online access via the web. The online system will allow archeological researchers who obtain a secure password to access records without visiting the office, saving time and expense. Scans of site form extension material were finished and added to the online system. Also, revisions were made to access request forms that will be used in-house and for online research. Although the project is not yet complete, AHTD began testing the geographical component of the AMASDA Online database this year. There is an extension on this grant until June 30, 2011.

**Corps of Engineers Projects.** A subcontract through Brockington and Associates for \$112,276 enabled rehabilitation of Cedar Grove site and Les Johnson collections for the Vicksburg District COE. Holli Howard re-boxed the collections, Barbara Farley inventoried skeletal remains, and Teka McGlothlin scanned Corps of Engineers reports.

#### **NAGPRA** Functions

The registrar's office received human skeletal remains from the Arkansas Medical Examiner's Office in Little Rock. These are all prehistoric remains. Mary Suter (UA Museum Collections Facility) assisted by providing storage space in the curation area.

# Registrar's Office Personnel

Lela Donat (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1992) became Survey Registrar in 1994, after three years as assistant registrar and a previous 17-year career in nursing. Her degree specialization was bioanthropology. Donat is proficient in the use of database applications and has archeological and bioanthropological field and laboratory experience in Arkansas and Chile.

Marian Kunetka (M.A., University of Arkansas, 1999) joined the staff as assistant registrar after working part-time in the office while pursuing her B.A. and M.A. degrees in anthropology as a nontraditional student at UAF. She previously was an executive secretary for a major corporation, and owned and operated a rare books and graphics store in Chicago. She has archeological field and laboratory experience in Arkansas.

Teka McGlothlin, Duncan McKinnon & Leslie Walker are students in the UAF Department of Anthropology. Teka is an undergraduate anthropology major. Leslie and Duncan are Ph.D. candidates; both have completed their master's degrees in the department and continue to work with Survey archeologists as their advisors.

#### The Registrar's Office provided assistance to the following groups & agencies during 2009–2010

Federal	• CHRS, Inc. of PA		
Buffalo National River, Harrison, Arkansas	• C-Dimensions, TX		
Bureau of Land Management, Jackson, Mississippi	Coastal Environments Inc., Baton Rouge		
Corps of Engineers – Memphis, Little Rock, Vicksburg,	Dynamic Environmental Associates, Inc.		
and St. Louis Districts	Earth Search of New Orleans		
National Park Service	Environmental Research Center of Missouri		
Midwest Archeological Center, Lincoln, NE	• Environmental Corporation of America (GA)		
• National NAGPRA Program, Washington, D.C.	• Flat Earth Archeology (AR)		
Natural Resources Conservation Service, Little Rock	• GEO-Marine, Plainview, TX		
U.S. Forest Service	Goodwin and Associates (nationwide)		
Ouachita National Forest	• Gulf South Research Corporation (LA)		
Ozark-St. Francis National Forests	Historic Preservation Associates (AR)		
	• Louis Berger (nationwide)		
State	• MACTEC (TN)		
Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department	MRS Consultants, LLC (AL)		
Arkansas History Commission	Mid-Continental Research Associates (AR)		
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	Natural Resource Group (nationwide)		
Arkansas Humanities Council	Panamerican Consultants of Memphis		
Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism – State Parks	• Peregrine Environmental (TX)		
Arkansas Army National Guard	• PBS&J (TX)		
Out of State Museums and Universities	AAS Sponsored Research Program (AR)		
University of Memphis	Seas Dimensions, Inc.		
	• Sphere 3 (TX)		
American Indian Tribes	• SPEARS, Inc. (AR)		
The Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma	SW Power Administration Rows (nationwide)		
The Caddo Nation – Binger, Oklahoma	• SURA, Inc. (LA)		
The Osage Nation – Pawhuska, Oklahoma	<ul> <li>Terracon (nationwide)</li> </ul>		
	• TRC Solutions, Atlanta, GA		
Private Firms	• Weaver & Associates (TN)		
• AMTEC (Knoxville, TN)	• URS (nationwide)		
Archeological Assessments, Inc. (AR)			
Archeological Environmental Consultants, LLC (TX)	Tours		
Brockington Associates (nationwide)	UAF "Approaches to Archeology" classes, Fall & Spring		
• BSC of Oklahoma	Visiting researchers & scholars		
Burna & McDonnall Vancas City			

• Burns & McDonnell, Kansas City

public school students

# **Education Specialist**

Mary L. Kwas, Research Associate

The Arkansas Archeological Survey has been a leader in public education since its inception—in the state, nationally, and worldwide. To make this effort more effective, a position was dedicated in 1999, and Mary L. Kwas was appointed education specialist. The education specialist manages Archeology Month, develops educational and interpretive material, and disseminates information about Arkansas archeology for the general public and for use by professional educators through print media, the Internet, hands-on classroom activities, and exhibits and presentations at workshops and conferences. She also works closely with the Arkansas Archeological Society.

# News & Research

#### **Southern Jewish History**

Kwas wrote a spin-off article from her Old Washington research, "Two Generations of the Abraham and Fanny Block Family: Internal Migration, Economics, Family, and the Jewish Frontier," that was published in the journal *Southern Jewish History*. The article reached new audiences and also contributed to scholarship on early 19th-century Southern Jewish history, about which little has been written for Arkansas.

Kwas was then asked by the journal's book review editor to contribute a review of a volume on another southern Jewish merchant family (*We Were Merchants: The Sternberg Family and the Story of Goudchaux's and Maison Blanche Department Stores* by Hans J. Sternberg).

#### **Old State House History Book**

Kwas's history of Arkansas's Old State House grew out of archeological research conducted by the Survey in the 1990s during restoration of the 1830s building. *A Pictorial History of Arkansas's Old State House: Celebrating 175 Years* will be published by the University of Arkansas Press in early 2011. The book is a cooperative project with the staff of the Old State House Museum, who helped locate and get permission for images, and provided images of objects from their collection. This work will bring forward new information on a little-known aspect of Arkansas's history. The book is designed visually and written in a style to appeal to the general public.

#### **Pinson Mounds Publications**

Kwas revised her 1996 article "Antiquarians' Perspectives on Pinson Mounds" (*Tennessee Anthropologist* 21(2):83–123) for inclusion in a new publication on the archeology of Pinson Mounds, being prepared by Robert Mainfort, to be submitted to the University of Tennessee Press. The much expanded and enhanced revision will provide new materials and a more detailed analysis of the historic accounts. A slightly revised version of a 1997 article "Politics and Prehistory: The Making of Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Area" (*Tennessee Anthropologist* 22(1):52–71) will be included as an appendix. She and Mainfort are also working on a stand-alone article on an early map of Pinson Mounds to be submitted to *Southeastern Archaeology*.

#### **Projects for Arkansas State Parks**

In 2009 Kwas and Dr. Jami Lockhart completed a research project for the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism on the early 19th-century Pioneer Cemetery located at Historic Washington State Park. Kwas researched and prepared biographical sketches on 80 individuals. Kwas has been negotiating with the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives Foundation about publishing a slightly expanded version of the report in limited quantity. Interest in historic cemeteries is on the rise, and the report would be of use to regional historians and genealogists.

Kwas worked with Kathleen Candy, Michael Evans, Jared Pebworth, and Aden Jenkins in early 2010 to assist the State Parks Exhibit Shop in creating new interpretive exhibits for Davidsonville Historic State Park. The team made recommendations for themes, artifacts, and images. Kwas contributed much of the exhibit copy, and assisted with proofreading and editing.

Asked to participate as one of the speakers in the annual Red River Symposium at Historic Washington State Park, Kwas prepared a presentation on "The Blocks of Old Washington: Jewish Merchants and the Quest for Opportunity." The symposium was held in late July 2010.

#### **Arkansas Archeology Month**

Kwas continues to serve as Archeology Month Coordinator. Managing this diverse event occupies a major portion of her time throughout the year. During Archeology Month, a variety of activities, programs, and exhibits are scheduled by different state agencies, museums, parks, archeologists, and Arkansas Archeological Society members at a variety of locations throughout the state. Kwas works with the Arkansas Archeological Society Executive Committee to determine a theme for the year's event, sends out advance notices and follow-ups to potential programmers, then compiles and edits submissions into an Events Brochure. She updates information for the Archeology Month webpages and supervises the mailing of the brochure, posters, and press releases. She concludes by preparing a summary of the year's events.

In March 2010 the theme of Archeology Month was *Partners for the Past*, chosen to celebrate the Arkansas Archeological Society's 50th anniversary. Thirty-seven programs were scheduled at 24 venues across the state, including eight museums, five state and national parks, five schools and colleges, two libraries, and other agencies. Highlights included illustrated talks, exhibits, artifact identification programs, and hands-on activities. The poster this year was designed by Jane Kellett and Deborah Sabo, with an emphasis on cooperative activities between the Survey and the Society. For more information about Archeology Month 2010 see <u>www.arkansasarcheology.org/archmonth.html</u>.

#### Arkansas Archeological Society

Kwas works closely with the statewide Arkansas Archeological Society, and with the Ko-ko-çi Chapter in Fayetteville. She provides occasional items for the Society newsletter *Field Notes* and regularly sends content updates for the Society website.

Annual Meeting. Kwas and Barbara Scott are cocoordinators of the Society Annual Meeting. Kwas also serves as program chair. There are several stages of work throughout the year, with the most intensive phase from July through September for the fall meeting. As program chair, Kwas solicits papers and gathers abstracts. This year a souvenir program was desired for the 50th Anniversary meeting. Deborah Sabo was asked to design the program. Kwas developed a "Guide to Setting Up an Arkansas Archeological Society Annual Meeting" which she sends yearly to the following year's arrangements chair.

Ko-ko-çi Chapter. Kwas continued to serve as newsletter editor for the Ko-ko-çi Chapter. The monthly newsletter is sent by email and regular mail to members and distributed to departments on the UAF campus. She also handles press releases for the Chapter and sends email updates to Chapter members. She and David Markus, a graduate student in the UA Department of Anthropology, gave a joint presentation at the chapter's December meeting, titled "The Blocks of Old Washington: Jewish Merchants and the Quest for Opportunity."

## Service Activities

Mary L. Kwas (M.S., University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, 1980) joined the Survey is 1996 with extensive experience in public education and archeology. Her previous positions include collections archeologist for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, site manager of Pinson Mounds State Archeological Area in Tennessee, and curator of education at Chucalissa Museum, University of Memphis. In 2007 she was one of a three-member team to receive the Society for American Archaeology's Presidential Recognition Award for developing the SAA's public outreach website. Her interests include historical archeology and archeological parks.

#### **Professional Service**

- Advisor to the Society for American Archaeology, Public Education Committee
- Arkansas representative for the Network of State and Provincial Archaeology Education Coordinators, SAA
- Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Public Outreach Grant Committee (Chair)
- Arkansas Archeological Survey, Publications Committee
- · peer reviewed a book manuscript for University of Alabama Press
- co-organizer for a symposium on public outreach at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology in January 2011

#### **Public Service**

- · worked with the Fayetteville Historic and Heritage Resources Action Group
- three sessions of "Trash Box Archeology" to 4th-6th graders at University Days, UAF campus (attendance, 42)
- advised an educator on introducing an archeology program at the KIPP Charter School in Blytheville
- gave a tour of the Survey to a Springdale 8th grader on a "job shadowing" project

# The Publications Program

Robert C. Mainfort, Jr., Series Editor

Lindi Holmes, Production Editor for Research Series (through November 2009) Deborah Sabo, Production Editor for Popular Series & Customer Service Lisa Davison, Accountant, Inventory, Sales & Distribution

The Survey's Publications Program consists of three series: the Research Series, Technical Papers, and Popular Series present the results of Survey research projects and submissions from other qualified authors to a wide range of audiences, from professional scholars and students to public school teachers, government officials, and the general public. A Publications Committee reviews submissions internally and mediates an external review process. Program staff all have additional responsibilities in other capacities at the Survey. The Publications Program generates its own revenue and is self-supporting.

## New & Forthcoming Publications

Research Series No. 64, *Archeological Investigations at Upper Nodena:* 1973 *Field Season*, edited by Robert C. Mainfort, Jr. appeared in early 2010. Lindi Holmes prepared the manuscript, and Denorah Sabo saw it through the printing process after Ms. Holmes retired. Three hundred copies were printed by PMC Solutions at a cost of \$2,841. The book sells for \$22. Two other book manuscripts are in various stages of review, revision, and/or production.

## **Reprints & Other Products**

One thousand copies of Research Series No. 44, *Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains,* were again reordered in December 2009. This was the eleventh printing of what has become a standard text and laboratory manual for human osteology/physical anthropology classes in American and many Canadian universities. The price was raised from \$30 to \$35 to help offset rising costs.



## Sales & Distribution

Publication sales and distribution numbered 1464 volumes in all series and produced \$26,739 in sales (\$18,781 in gross profits). This includes 154 volumes given away as complimentary copies, including books distributed to colleagues, teachers, reviewers, libraries and archives, graduate students, and volumes contributed to the Southeastern Archaeological Conference Student Paper Competition prize. Our bestselling books continue to be RS44 *Standards for Data Collection from Human Skeletal Remains*, 769 sold or 67% of the total Research Series volumes), PS03 (*Paths of Our Children, Historic Indians of Arkansas*, 126 sold), PS05 (*Rock Art in Arkansas*, 70 sold), and TP11 (*A Handbook of Soil Description for Archeologists*, 52 sold).

Survey representatives sold books this year at the Caddo Conference in Tyler, Texas (\$221 in sales), the Society for American Archaeology in St. Louis (\$306 in sales), and the Arkansas Archeological Society 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds (\$451 in sales). Due to the high cost of exhibit booth rental at the SAA, the Survey lost money in that venue, but it was considered worthwhile to have a presence at the profession's premier conference in the U.S.

### New Developments

A number of volumes in our older catalog have now gone out of print. Some of these titles are on a list that Survey professional staff have voted should remain available because of their research value, and several of these do not exist in digital formats.

Lindi Holmes, production editor for Research Series, retired in November 2009. Her assistance to the Program will be sorely missed.

	Research Series	Research Reports	Popular Series	Technical Papers	Total
No. of					
Titles	64	32	5	11	112
Sold	1023	16	218	53	1310
•••-					
Free	124	17	9	4	154
TTEE	127	17	/	т	134
<b>T</b>	1147	22	227	67	1444
Total	1147	33	227	57	1464

### Publication Sales and Distribution for 2009–2010

### Survey Books Get Good Reviews

*Rock Art in Arkansas* (Popular Series No. 5, published in 2005) was reviewed in the Winter 2009 issue of *Southeastern Archaeology* (volume 28, number 2). The reviewer, Michael Terlep, states: "Overall, *Rock Art in Arkansas* is a valuable resource for the general public. The authors did a good job with topic selection and organization. The inexpensive price of this book has increased its accessibility for the general public." Terlep points out an unfortunate binding defect in the original production run which has since been corrected. All copies of the book have been re-glued. He goes on to say, "the book would be well utilized for students or anyone interested in Arkansas' ancient artisans."

### **Staff Activities**

- Series Editor **Robert Mainfort** solicited manuscripts, and worked with authors who are revising manuscripts prior to production. He also discussed possible partnerships between the Survey and the University of Arkansas Press with Larry Malley (Director of the Press).
- Lindi Holmes, the production editor for the Research Series, retired in November 2009. Several years prior to her retirement, she and Mainfort set the goal of producing digital copies of all older Survey reports (Research Series and Research Reports) by 2010. All Research Reports and most Research Series were digitized but have not been proof-read. During her lengthy service, Lindi contributed to the publications program in many ways, and she is greatly missed.
- **Deborah Sabo** compiled, edited, and designed the Annual Report of the Survey for FY2008–2009. She also assisted with sales, inventory, and distribution, including the Standing Orders list and Free Distribution List, created new content for the Publications webpages (that has not yet been posted), made new price lists of available titles for distribution at meetings and other venues, and made all arrangements with the print shop for reprints and new publications. She keeps the Survey's information up-to-date at Bowker Books-in-Print online. She is (*ex officio*) a permanent member of the Survey Publications Committee. She worked on a complete redesign of the Survey's educational fliers and Teacher Packet, and helped design and produce the Archeology Month poster for 2010. As editor of the Popular Series, she continued consultation with prospective authors on a replacement for the Survey's best-selling *Crossroads of the Past*, now out of print. She is also the editor of the Arkansas Archeological Society Newsletter, *Field Notes*, published six times per year.
- **Lisa Davison** managed publication sales, distribution, and accounting. She prepares monthly sales and inventory reports, and works tirelessly to clear the books of outstanding invoices.
- The Survey publications committee—Jamie Brandon (chair), Kathleen Cande, Mary Kwas, Jami Lockhart, Jane-Anne Blakney-Bailey, and Deborah Sabo (*ex officio*) coordinated the review of a manuscript and provided input on various matters regarding the publication program. The program staff appreciate the committee's assistance and suggestions.

# Photographic and Graphic Arts Support

M. Jane Kellett, Graphic Artist

Photographic and graphic arts support at the Survey include a darkroom and desktop computer graphic arts facilities. Visual documentation is an essential part of archeology, for research, publication, archives, and records management. The research stations, the registrar's office, SRP, the publications program, and the various outreach activities all benefit from the productions of this office.

Ms. Kellett develops and prints black and white film for all the stations and coordinating office staff, duplicates slides for outreach and professional meeting presentations, and maintains a digitized archive of 35 mm black and white negatives and digital camera images. She prepares maps, figures, illustrations, and photographic plates for Survey publications, SRP contract reports, and staff publications in professional journals and books. She does layout and graphics for a variety of outreach materials produced by the Survey.

## 2009-2010 Activities

- 60 rolls of black and white film processed and cataloged
- 1255 images scanned from black and white negatives, color slides and film, digital images, and prints for research, teaching aids, Society publications, SRP reprints, journal and newsletter articles, poster/public presentations, station archives, and academic publications
- 40 graphic and design works, maps, graphs, posters and illustrations
- 230 items photographed: prehistoric and historic pottery and artifacts for grants, publications, research, presentations, and public and professional meetings
- designed and produced the 2010 Archeology Month poster (with Deborah Sabo)



Jane Kellett's design for the 2010 Archeology Month poster, celebrating the Arkansas Archeological Society's 50th Anniversary with a theme of "Partners for the Past."

**M**. Jane Kellett joined the Survey in 1977 while still working on a graduate degree in Art at UAF. She began a full-time position in 1979, drafting maps and other graphics, and added photographic duties in 1982.

# Partners in Preservation

The Arkansas Archeological Society Arkansas River Valley Chapter, Petit Jean Mtn. Ark-Homa Chapter, Fort Smith Central Mississippi Valley Chapter, Jonesboro Kadohadacho Chapter, Magnolia

Ouachita Chapter, Hot Springs Toltec Chapter, Little Rock Tunican Chapter, Monticello Ko-ko-çi Chapter, Fayetteville

Many of the Survey's activities are in cooperation with the Arkansas Archeological Society, a nonprofit educational organization for interested people of all ages and vocations. The Survey and the Society have a unique and productive relationship based upon common interests of professional and amateur archeologists to protect the archeological heritage of the state, to learn about Arkansas's past, and to present that knowledge to the public. The Society elects a Board of Advisors who conduct yearly reviews of the Survey's goals, accomplishments, and needs. Society members provide proactive support for the Survey's mission of education, research, and service, and constitute a pool of skilled volunteers without whose help this mission would be much less efficiently carried out. To make the most of this energetic volunteer support, the Survey and Society jointly manage a Training and Certification Program for amateur archeologists. It was the first such program in the country and has served as a model for archeological organizations in other states and around the world.

#### **AAS Chapters**

The Arkansas Archeological Society's total membership increased from 550 in 2009 to 611 in 2010. Active chapters across the state work closely with the Survey research archeologists in their areas. Chapters have monthly meetings during the academic year with a guest speaker or other program that is open to the public. Survey archeologists are frequent presenters and often also serve as newsletter editors and program organizers. Survey stations host volunteer work sessions in the laboratories, and Society members participate in Survey field and lab projects throughout the year.

#### **Society Volunteers**

Many Survey research projects in the field and laboratory depend on volunteers, mostly Society members. Volunteers contributed over 12,000 hours to archeological projects across Arkansas in 2009–2010.

#### **The Site Stewards Program**

Another role for Society volunteers is the Site Stewards Program, which enlists individuals to monitor the condition of important archeological sites. Stewards visit their assigned site(s) and report periodically on problems such as erosion or vandalism. Stewardship is conducted in cooperation with interested landowners. Stewards visit with landowners and tenants to discuss ways to protect the sites from trespass and damage such as unauthorized digging. The Survey provides training and guidance for site stewards in the form of a half-day workshop during the summer Training Program, plus mentoring for individual stewards. Society officer Chester Shaw is the outgoing head of the Stewardship Committee. Gary Knudsen agreed to assume the position beginning in Fall 2010. A brochure explaining site stewardship to landowners is available from the Survey and from the Stewardship Committee chairperson.

#### Archeology Month – March 2010

Archeology Month is a multifaceted public education concept to promote awareness and appreciation of Arkansas archeology. The theme of Archeology Month for 2010 was Partners for the Past, focusing on the cooperative relationship among professional and amateur archeologists in the state in celebration of the Society's 50th anniversary.

There were 37 scheduled programs at 24 venues across the state, including eight museums, five state and national parks, five schools and colleges, two libraries, and other locations. Events ranged from illustrated talks to exhibits, artifact identification days, and hands-on activities. Some highlights were a Field Day at Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, the annual Spring Equinox Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, flint-knapping demonstrations at the Little Rock River Market, and a week long excavation at the Block House in Historic Washington State Park (with Society volunteers and students as crew) that visitors could observe in progress.

A handsome, two-sided poster sponsored by the Arkansas Archeological Society featured a collage of vintage images from past Society activities and a list of projects to which Society members have contributed. The poster was designed by Jane Kellett and Deborah Sabo (both Survey staff), and was included in the national display of Archeology Month posters at the 2010 Society for American Archeology meeting in St. Louis, Missouri. It can be seen on our website at www.arkansasarcheology.org/archmonth.html.

#### **Annual Meeting**

The 2009 annual meeting was held September 25–27 in Eureka Springs, with 101 registrants. Society members Susan Young and Joe Parks handled local arrangements. The Survey's Mary Kwas was Program Chair, and Survey/ Society liaison Barbara Scott was in charge of registration and on-site logistics, as well as many aspects of preparation for the meeting. Of 14 scheduled papers, 11 were presented by Survey archeologists. The keynote address was by Dr. Martha Rolingson, former Survey archeologist for the Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park research station (retired in 2005 after a 37-year career with the Survey). Dr. Rolingson's talk on "Toltec Mounds: Archeology of the Mound-and-Plaza Complex" summarized her three decades of research at the site.

#### **Society Publications**

The Society has two publications, a bimonthly newsletter *Field Notes* and an annual Bulletin *The Arkansas Archeologist.* Articles for the Bulletin are subject to external peer review. Deborah Sabo (Research Assistant for the Survey coordinating office and Publications Program) is Editor of *Field Notes.* The newsletter format emphasizes short substantive articles about archeological research in Arkansas, and also publishes relevant information about the Society's statewide activities and business matters, plus news and announcements. In 2010, *Field Notes* celebrated the Society's 50th anniversary year by reprinting some retrospective material from past issues.

The Society Chapters distribute their own newsletters (primarily electronic) with regional news and announcements, plus there is a statewide email list to notify members when volunteers are needed for emergency projects.

Dr. Glen Akridge of Fayetteville is editor of *The Arkan*sas Archeologist. Volumes 48 (for 2008 subscribers) and 49 (for 2009 subscribers) were published in 2009–2010. *The Arkansas Archeologist* is available on the EBSCO database via a subscribing library or other institution. The Society receives a royalty from EBSCO which helps to pay for publication costs.

#### **Archeological Research Fund**

The Society began awarding grants from its Archeological Research Fund in 1989. The fund is composed of donations and money obtained in fund-raising raffles. Interest in the account is distributed as grants to projects in which Society members have participated.

Grant recipients announced at the 2009 annual meeting in Eureka Springs were Larry Porter (WRI research station), \$1190 for AMS radiocarbon dates on samples from site 3LO226; Dr. Marvin Jeter (UAM research station), \$1250 for archeobotanical analysis and radiocarbon dates on corncobs and other plant remains from site 3DR2; Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt (HSU research station), \$595 for AMS radiocarbon dating on charred wood/nutshell from site 3HS28; and Dr. Julie Morrow (ASU research station), \$750 for radiocarbon dating on material from site 3RA95.



Ko-ko-çi Chapter volunteer Jim Rees works in the UAF station lab. Jim has been identifying and studying remains of cane flutes from the Edens Bluff shelter collections.

# "Society Dig": The Training & Certification Program

This unique program is managed cooperatively by the Society and Survey. Every year in June a two-week field school for amateurs is conducted at an archeological site chosen according to criteria of ongoing research interests at the Survey stations, educational potential, and logistical needs. The program requires extensive preparation by Survey staff along with a committee of Society members beginning months in advance. Field and laboratory work are supervised by Survey staff, other professionals, and qualified Society members. Survey archeologists and other qualified individuals also teach a series of five-day seminars on various archeological topics during the Training Program. Those who complete the required number of hours in the field, lab, and classroom may earn optional Certification in several categories. The Survey stations devote years to analyzing the material collected during the summer "Digs," usually with help from Society volunteers. Training Program participants must be members of the Arkansas Archeological Society. Ages eight and up are welcome, but children under 16 must be accompanied by a registered adult participant. The Training Program is our most visible outreach activity and has been widely imitated throughout the United States.

## The 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds

#### Fieldwork

The 2010 Training Program was hosted by the Toltec Mounds research station and Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, with the cooperation and assistance of Arkansas State Parks. It was one of the highest attended Training Programs, with 142 registered participants plus staff. Dr. Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey, then station archeologist at Toltec Mounds, directed the excavations and research design. This year, thanks in part to Blakney-Bailey's outreach and recruitment efforts, a large number of college students attended the Dig. Dr. Brett Hill of Hendrix College brought a group of students from his archeology classes. Other students came

from UAF, UALR, UAFS, Lyon College, SAU, and HSU. Some of these students received field school credit from their universities. There was also a contingent of students from Abilene High School in Texas with their teacher.

The Toltec Mounds site is one of the earliest and most complex Late Woodland mound sites in eastern North America. It had 18 mounds constructed around two rectangular plazas, all surrounded by a mile-long earthen embankment and ditch. The two largest mounds are today 49 and 38 feet high, but were originally even taller, and are among the largest earthen mounds in North America. The site was built by people of the Plum Bayou culture (named by archeologists), who lived in central and eastern Arkansas between A.D. 650 and 1050. Most of the moundbuilding at the Toltec site occurred in the A.D. 800s and 900s. Though the site has been studied scientifically by the Survey, including several previous Training Program digs, there had been no major excavations for 20 years. It was time to return to one of Arkansas's—and eastern North America's—premier archeological sites.

Goals of the fieldwork were determined partly by longstanding research questions and partly by weather events. Major rains and severe flooding had caused erosion on the



Training Program participants begin clearing a new unit in the Mound D excavation area.

lake-ward side of Mound P, which had never before been excavated. Artifacts were coming out of the side of the mound and tumbling downslope. Therefore, Mound P was one focus of the Training Program crews.

Another focus was Mound D, which had seen major attention in previous 1970s excavations, when much was learned about the stages of mound construction and use. Of particular interest was Feature D-7, a group of postholes which could be part of a large structure. So, another crew re-opened this area and expanded it. The situation turned out to be even more complex than expected, and has yet to be fully interpreted. There may be overlapping structures, which can only be determined by carefully deciphering the relationship of postholes and pits.

Another part of the site that had been disturbed by extreme weather was at the edge of the oxbow lake, to the west of Mound D. This is where a large tree was uprooted during a 2009 storm, exposing artifacts and features. Excavations in the "tree fall" had already taken place to clean up the disturbance, but more were warranted. This little area is important because it is both off-mound and off-plaza. Little has been done in such portions of the site.

Aside from Blakney-Bailey, additional Survey personnel who assisted in one capacity or another included Barbara Scott, who managed the field office, Dr. "Skip" Stewart-Abernathy and Larry Porter (WRI station), Dr. Jamie Brandon and David Jeane (SAU station), Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt (HSU station), Jessica Howe (UAM station), Tim Mulvihill (UAFS station), Dr. John House (UAPB station), Dr. Jeff Mitchem (Parkin station), and Pritam Chowdhury (UA graduate student working with Survey faculty). Qualified Society members and other professional archeologists also served in supervisory roles. The Dig included nine five-day classes taught by eight Survey archeologists and one UAF Ph.D. candidate. One hundred four people enrolled in the seminars. In addition, there were evening programs presented by Dr. Blakney-Bailey, Dr. Brett Hill (Hendrix College), Pritam Chowdhury, and Society member Steve Jacober. From 50 to 100 people attended each lecture. Since the excavations were at a state park where visitors could observe on any day, the usual Open House was not scheduled. Members of the public were welcome to visit the excavations and ask questions throughout the Program.

#### **Certification Seminars**

The Certification Program is an optional offering for Society members who wish to pursue classroom and practical training in a little more depth, for enrichment and to earn recognition at various levels of expertise. Participants work under supervision to gain additional experience by volunteering for lab and field projects and completing the necessary seminars. They move along at their own pace and according to their individual interests. Seminars taught at the Dig this year were two sessions of Basic Excavation (taught by UAF Ph.D. candidate Pritam Chowdhury, 25 students, and UAPB station archeologist Dr. John House, 18 students), and one session each of Basic Lab (Blytheville station archeologist Dr. Claudine Payne, 13 students), Establising Time (Parkin station archeologist Dr. Jeff Mitchem, 3 students), Faunal Analysis (ASU station archeologist Dr. Julie Morrow, 16 students), Lithic Analysis (HSU station archeologist Dr. Mary Beth Trubitt, 7 students), Mapping (Coordinating Office archeologist Mike Evans, 6 students), Research Design (SAU station archeologist Dr. Jamie Brandon, 9 students), and Site Survey (UAM station assistant Jessica Howe, 7 students).

Additional Certification classes were offered this year at Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain (hosted by the WRI research station). Dr. Jeff Mitchem taught Human Osteology in November 2009 (9 students), and WRI station archeologist Dr. Skip Stewart-Abernathy taught Historical Archeology.

At the 2009 annual meeting in Eureka Springs, six Society members received certificates in various categories (they are named in *Field Notes* No. 351). Scott Akridge became the eighth Society member to complete Level Three certification by earning all six certificates in the Level One and Two categories, thus "graduating" from the Program as a Certified Archeological Technician.



Barbara Scott and Scott Akridge celebrate Akridge's completion of Level Three, Certified Archeological Technician.

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Photo Credits

Banner photo on page 3: Panoramic view of excavation area at Carden Bottoms, June 2009; Photo by Leslie Walker.

Title page photo: Jane Anne Blakney-Bailey holds aloft a dart point unearthed during the June 2010 Training Program at Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park; Photo by Tim Mulvihill.

Banner photos on Contents page: AmeriCorps volunteer Elizabeth Sorensen at Toltec Mounds, photo by Mary Beth Trubitt; UAF graduate student Pritam Chowdhury with Ferguson site ceramic vessel; UAF graduate student Duncan McKinnon's work area, photo by Duncan McKinnon.

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