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June 25, 2015

Pam Breaux, SHPO
Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
Division of Archaeology
P.O. Box 44247
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Dear Ms. Breaux:

**Exhibit EE. Port of Columbia Site Phase I
Cultural Resources Assessment Report,
Transmittal Letter, & SHPO Acceptance**

I enclose for your records two copies of the final report and a .pdf version for the Port of Columbia project.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Chouest
Project Manager

The Final Report has been reviewed and accepted. *22-4845*

Pam Breaux *July 2015*
Pam Breaux Date
State Historic Preservation Officer

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JUN 20 2015

ARCHAEOLOGY

**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
OF 183 ACRES (3.9 HECTARES) IN CALDWELL PARISH,
LOUISIANA**



For

Port of Columbia
212 Johnson Road
Columbia, LA 71418



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**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY
OF 183 ACRES (3.9 HECTARES) IN CALDWELL PARISH,
LOUISIANA
Draft Report**

By

Matthew Chouest and Malcolm K. Shuman

Submitted to

Port of Columbia
212 Johnson Road
Columbia, LA 71418

April 24, 2015

ABSTRACT

From March 25, 2015, to April 3, 2015, a Phase I cultural resources survey was conducted of 183 acres (3.9 ha) on the left descending bank of the Ouachita River near Riverton, Caldwell Parish, Louisiana. A total of 738 shovel tests were excavated. Three archaeological sites were discovered: Riverton Camp (16CA134), Terral (16CA135), and Ouachita Levee (16CA136). The authors suggest that these sites do not possess the qualities of significance and are not eligible for National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. As a result, no further work is recommended for the surveyed area.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors are grateful for the help rendered by Mr. Chandler Jordan of Bryant Hammett & Associates. The field crew was directed by Mr. Matthew Chouest, with crew consisting of Tom Hough and Rachael Farris. Malcolm Shuman served as principal investigator.

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CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

Between the dates of March 25, 2015, to April 3, 2015, the authors carried out a Phase I cultural resources survey of 183 acres (ac) (73.9 hectares [ha]) on the left descending bank of the Ouachita River in Caldwell Parish, Louisiana (Figure 1). This survey was conducted for the Port of Columbia as a part of industrial certification. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) lies in parts of Sections 13, 19, 21, 24 and 48, T14N, R3E and 4E.

The survey was conducted to fulfill the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

This report is organized as follows: Chapters on the environment, prehistory, and history of the area and followed by a discussion of the methodology employed in the current survey, the results of the survey, and recommendations. A final section lists the references cited in the text.

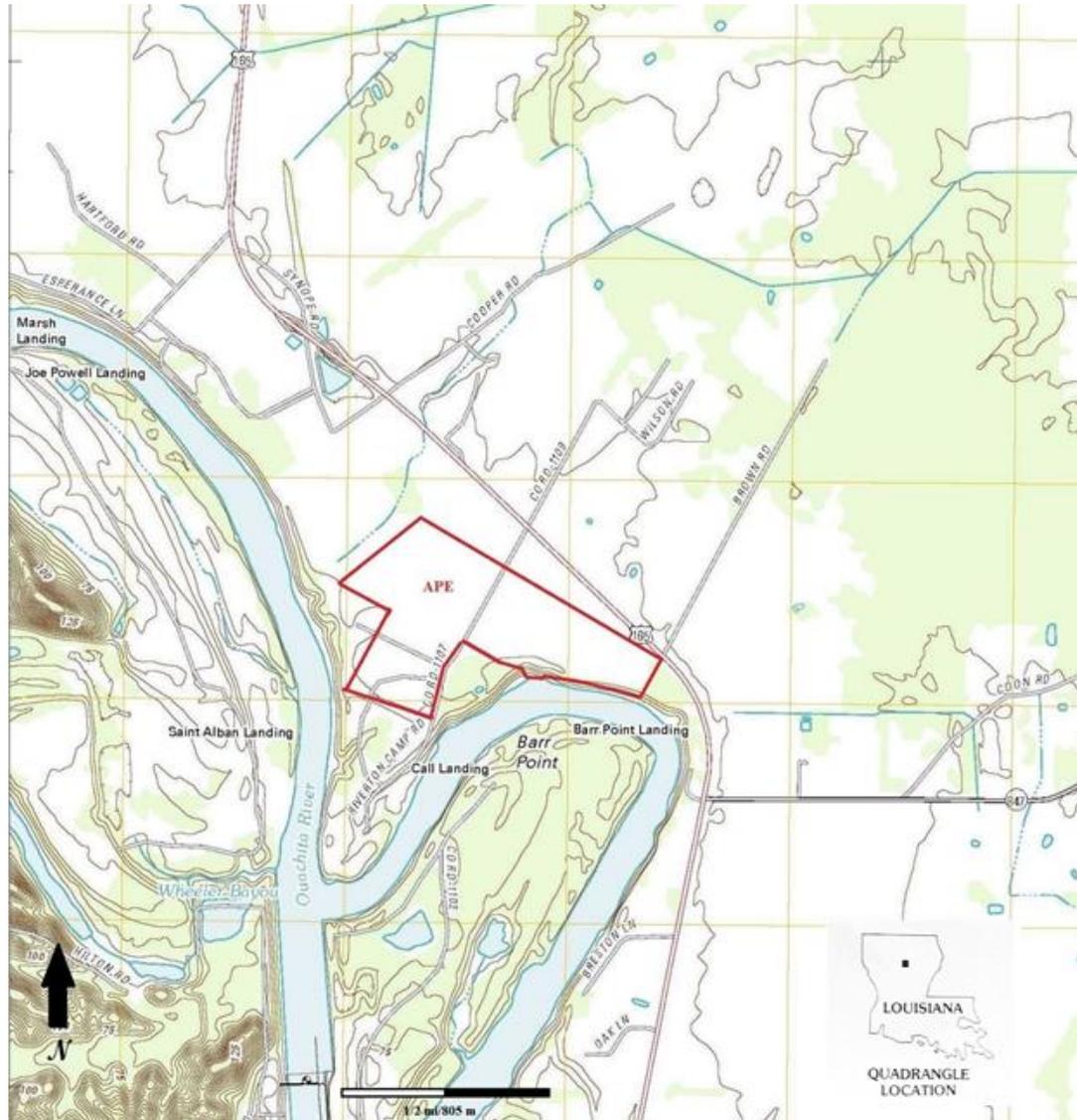


Figure 1 – Portion of Riverton, La. 7.5' (2012) Topographic Quadrangle, showing location of survey area

CHAPTER II: ENVIRONMENT

The project area is one of recent alluvium and natural levee formation created by the Ouachita River, although about 1.5 mi (2.4 km) southwest of the project area, on the west side of the Ouachita River, is an extensive outcropping of the Cockfield formation, an Eocene deposit pertaining to the Claiborne Group (LGS 1984). The natural stratigraphy of the floodplain area consists of 12 to 20 cm of gray alluvium, underlain by reddish soils of the Hebert-Rilla-Sterlington group (USDA 1971) (Figure 2).

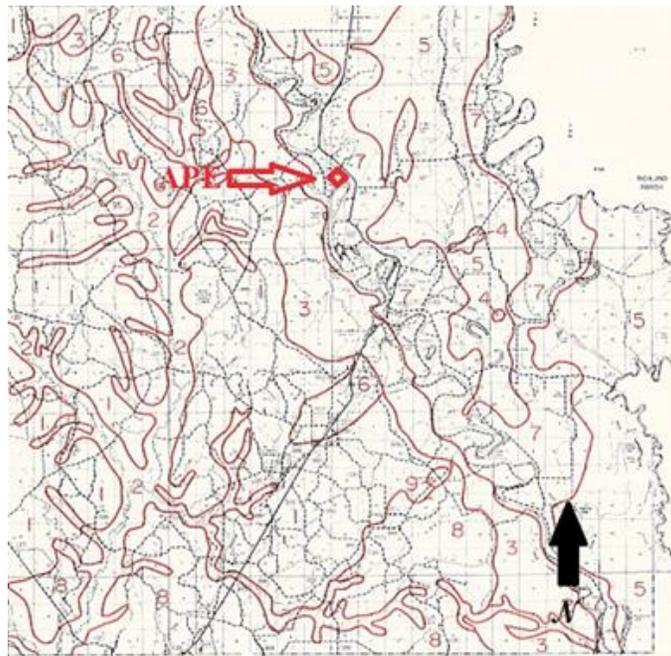


Figure 2 – Soils map of Caldwell Parish, showing APE (USDA 1971)

This is flat land with little or no relief and it supports hardwood vegetation, such as oaks (*Quercus* spp.) and hickory (*Carya* spp.) (Brown 1945). Much of the land has been cleared for agricultural purposes and soybeans and cotton are major crops, although the fields surveyed during the present project had been sown with cane.

The faunal assemblage is represented by a wide variety of mammals, reptiles and birds, to say nothing of insects. Common mammals of the area are the opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), and the white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). The reader desiring a more complete description of the mammalian inventory is referred to Lowery (1974). Reptiles include three types of pit vipers, in the genera *Crotalus* and *Agkistrodon*, and a number of innocuous species (Dundee and Rossman 1989). Avians include the crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), hawks (*Buteo* spp.), and waterfowl (*Meleagris pavo*), among many others (Lowrey 1955).

CHAPTER III: PREHISTORIC CULTURE HISTORY

Introduction

Information presented in this chapter has been compiled from several sources, all listed in the bibliography. These sources are Haag (1962; 1971), Kniffen et al (1987), Neuman (1984), Neuman and Hawkins (1993), Gibson (1983), Webb and Gregory (1986), Kidder (1990), and Hunter et al. (1995). A variety of chronologies concerning periods, cultures, and phases have been constructed for the Ouachita River area. The chronology employed here was developed by Kidder (1990) for various portions of the Lower Mississippi Valley, including the Lower Ouachita River Valley. Its focus is on ceramic (i.e., Neo-Indian) cultures (Figure 2).

Paleo-Indian Period

By the close of the Ice Age or Pleistocene Epoch, the whole of Louisiana was inhabited by Paleo-Indian peoples who, among other things, hunted now extinct megafauna (For a good recent discussion of early humans in the New World see Adovasio 2002). These early people, or their ancestors, apparently arrived in this hemisphere from Asia, via the Bering Strait land bridge at some time during the Pleistocene (Haag 1962). In woodland areas one of the more significant beasts of prey was the mastodon; on the prairies, game included the mammoth and the giant bison. Paleo-Indian sites are relatively rare in Louisiana, but at least one late Paleo-Indian site has been excavated in Caddo Parish (Webb et al. 1971). Here, at the John Pearce site (16CD56), Webb and his associates excavated a quantity of San Patrice points, scrapers of various types, notched flakes, burins, drills, graters, and denticulates. While these items implied an active hunting economy during late Paleo-Indian times, there was nothing at the site that shed any light on food gathering activities. Otherwise, Paleo-Indian artifacts have been found in other parts of the state, mainly in surface contexts or in situations where their stratigraphic position is dubious (Neuman 1984).

Archaic Period

With the arrival of modern climates some 10,000 years ago, people were forced into a new adaptation that focused on intensive gathering and hunting of small game. There are local versions of this Archaic adaptation in virtually every part of the New World, Louisiana included. It is probable that the late Paleo-Indian San Patrice culture overlaps into this Archaic time interval. Nearer the project area, sites on Macon Ridge have yielded early Archaic materials (Fuller 1985:66). Later examples of Archaic cultures are represented by Kirk Serrated and similar side notched point types that have been found on both Little River and around Catahoula Lake (Hunter et al. 1995:21). Recent research in Louisiana has suggested that earthen mound building originated during the Archaic period, with the Watson Brake site (16OU175), Frenchman's Bend (16OU259), Hedgepeth Mounds (16LI7) and Hillman's Mound (16MA201) supporting this interpretation (Saunders et al. 1994).

Date	FELSENTHAL	LOWER OUACHITA	BOEUF	BARTHOLOMEW-MACON	TENSAS	LOWER YAZOO	NATCHEZ
1750	Quapaw ?	Tunica-Koroa	Tunica-Koroa	Tunica-Koroa	Taensa	Russell	Natchez
1700		Glendora II					
1650	Caney Bayou	Glendora I	Jordan II	Tillar	Canebrake	Wasp Lake II	Emerald
1600			Jordan I				
1550	Kinnaid	Kinnaid	Kinnaid	Hug Lake	Transylvania	Wasp Lake I	Foster
1500							
1450	Gran Marais	Pargoud	Bartholomew	Wilmot	Fitzhugh	Lake George	Anna
1400							
1350				Bartholomew			
1300				Brodinax Church	Bartholomew	Routh	Winterville
1250	Cypress Swamp	Routon	Unnamed	De Yampert	Preston	Crippen Point	Gordon
1150							
1100	Small Slough	Pritchard Landing	Unnamed	De Yampert	Balmoral	Kings Crossing	Balmoral
1050							
1000	Small Slough	Crawford	Unnamed	De Yampert	Ballina	Aden	Ballina
950							
900	Unnamed	(Logtown?)	Matheny	De Yampert	Sundown	Bayland	Sundown
850							
800	Unnamed	Atkins	Silk	Dry Bayou	Marsden	Deasonville	Hamilton Ridge
750							
700	Unnamed	Harrelson Landing	Priestly	Dry Bayou	Insley	Little Sunflower	Hamilton Ridge
650							
600	Unnamed	Polk Field	Hegwood Bayou	Alligator Point	Johnson	Issaquena	Issaquena
550							
500	Unnamed	Polk Field	Hegwood Bayou	Alligator Point	Issaquena	Issaquena	Issaquena
450							
400	Unnamed	King	Unnamed	Unnamed	Point Lake	Anderson Landing	Grand Gulf
350							
300	Unnamed	King	Unnamed	Unnamed	Point Lake	Anderson Landing	Grand Gulf
250							
200	Unnamed	King	Unnamed	Unnamed	Point Lake	Anderson Landing	Grand Gulf
150							
100	Unnamed	King	Unnamed	Unnamed	Point Lake	Anderson Landing	Grand Gulf
50							
0 A.D.	Unnamed	King	Unnamed	Unnamed	Point Lake	Anderson Landing	Grand Gulf

Figure 3 – Prehistoric cultural chronology of northeastern Louisiana and western Mississippi (Kidder 1990)

Poverty Point Period

The second millennium B.C. witnessed a new development in the Lower Mississippi Valley, the Poverty Point culture. These people, named for the famous Poverty Point site (16WC5) in West Carroll Parish, constructed gigantic earthworks, certainly gathered wild foods, and may possibly have been agriculturists. Poverty Point is noted for the high quality of its lapidary industry. Many exotic minerals, such as talc, red jasper, quartzite, slates, magnetite, and feldspar were employed by Poverty Point artisans. Many items made of copper, which points to trade with the Lake Superior region, were recovered from the Poverty Point site (Neuman 1984:102).

Tchula Period

By 500 B.C., Poverty Point had been supplanted in the Lower Mississippi Valley by a culture called Tchefuncte that is associated with the Tchula period. The Tchefuncte people were largely fishers and gatherers and seem to have lived in small bands. Today, their sites are frequently identifiable as shell midden deposits along bodies of brackish water. The Tchefuncte folk were the first of Louisiana's native peoples to make regular use of pottery. It is also the earliest culture for which we have data on human morphology, mortuary practices and subsistence patterns (Neuman 1984:135).

Marksville Period

By the start of the Christian Era, a new culture takes center stage in Louisiana as an outgrowth of Hopewellian influences originating in the Ohio River Valley. This is the Marksville culture, a local variation of Hopewell. Like their Hopewell neighbors to the north, the Marksville people constructed earth mounds for mortuary purposes. In addition, they are characterized by distinctive forms of ceramics such as Marksville Stamped and Marksville Incised pottery.

Two well defined temporal phases have been proposed for the Catahoula Lake Basin and the Marksville area. The first is the Marksville Phase proper (A.D. 1-200), identified by the presence of conical burial mounds and ceramic types such as Marksville Stamped, *vars. Marksville, Crooks, and Mabin*, and Marksville Incised, *vars. Marksville, Point Lake and Old River* (Phillips 1970; Toth 1988). The second phase is the Baptiste Phase (A.D. 200-400), which is similar to the Issaquena phase of the Lower Yazoo Basin (Greengo 1964; Phillips 1970) and the Fredericks phase, defined by Gregory and Curry (1978) for the Natchitoches area. Typical ceramics include Marksville Incised, *vars. Yokena, Leist, and Steele Bayou*, and Marksville Stamped, *vars. Troyville and Manny*, and *Churupa Punctated* (Hunter et al. 1995:23-24). For the Tensas Basin, three Marksville phases have been suggested. These are Point Lake, Johnson and Issaquena (Hunter et al. 1995:24).

Baytown Period

Following the Marksville period, there is a lack of archaeological definition. This period, loosely labeled Baytown, gives the impression of being a transitional time, leading to the cultural florescence of the Coles Creek development around A.D. 700 (see Gibson 1982 for a discussion of the Baytown Period and Troyville Culture). This time period is seen by Griffin (1967:187) as a period of general cultural decline throughout Eastern North America. Two ceramic complexes focusing on painted pottery make their appearance in the Lower Mississippi Valley during this period, the earlier Quafalorma horizon and the later Woodville horizon (Hunter et al. 1995:24). Both of these ceramic complexes bear close similarities to coeval pottery types in Florida.

Two Baytown phases have been proposed for the Tensas Basin, Indian Bayou and Insley (Bitgood 1989; Hunter et al. 1995:25). For the Marksville area, Belmont (1967) has suggested a Black River phase based on his reexamination of Ford's materials from Greenhouse (16AV2). The Black Lake phase is succeeded by the Fort Adams phase in Belmont's scheme. This phase saw a decrease in the proportion of painted pottery and the introduction of new ceramic types, such

as Mazique Incised, French Fork Incised, and Chevalier Stamped (Hunter et al. 1995:25).

Coles Creek Period

Coles Creek is one of the most widespread and clearly defined archaeological horizons in Louisiana. It is recognizable by several pottery types, notably Coles Creek Incised and Pontchartrain Check Stamped. Another important trait is the introduction of the so-called “temple mound,” a characteristic of possible Mesoamerican derivation. This period is well-represented in the lower Ouachita Valley (Kidder 1990:58). In fact, the period is sufficiently documented that phase names have been proposed for the temporal subdivisions of the period, beginning about A.D. 700 for Coles Creek proper.

The earliest phase is named Logtown by Kidder. This phase dates about A.D. 700 to 800 and is a contemporary with the Matheny, Sundown, and Bayland phases of the Bouef, Tensas, and Yazoo basins, respectively, as well as Gibson’s Sicily Island phase. Ceramic markers are tentatively considered to be the presence of Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Hunt, Keno, Phillips*, and *Wade* and French Fork Incised, *var. French Fork*. The most salient lithic artifact is the Alba Stemmed, *var. Scallorn*, projectile point, which indicates the introduction of the bow and arrow. Mounds dating from this phase are known from the Logtown site (16OU6) on the Ouachita River, just south of Monroe (Kidder 1990:58-59). Unfortunately, the subsistence base and settlement pattern of the Logtown phase population are not well documented.

The Logtown phase of Coles Creek is followed by the Crawford phase (A.D. 800-900). While no mounds are known to have been built during this time period, sites are plentiful and appear to be concentrated on the natural levees of the Ouachita River. Ceramic types associated with this phase are Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Avoyelles*; Chevalier Stamped, *var. Chevalier*; Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Coles Creek* and *Stoner*; French Fork Incised, *var. Larkin*; and Mazique Incised, *var. Mazique*. Again, there are no good data for settlement pattern or subsistence during this phase (Kidder 1990:59).

By A.D. 900, or the middle of the Coles Creek period, the Pritchard Landing phase (A.D. 900-1050) appears and the number of sites increases. The ceramic complex is marked by Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Kearny*; Beldeau Incised, *var. Beldeau*; Coles Creek Incised, *vars. Blakely, Greenhouse*, and *Mott*; Evansville Punctated, *var. Rhinehart*; French Fork Incised, *var. McNutt*; Mazique Incised, *var. King’s Point*; and Baytown Plain, *var. Vicksburg*. Kidder suggests that similarities between this phase in the Lower Ouachita Valley and the Balmoral phase in the Tensas Basin indicate a geographically widespread phenomenon (Kidder 1990:59). Kidder goes on to point out that during this phase the Pritchard Landing site (16CT14) is the largest mound site in the region, representing “the top of a hierarchically organized settlement pattern which includes lower order mounds and subsidiary villages...” (Kidder 1990:59). From recent work at the Jolly site (16TE103), a Balmoral Phase location in the adjacent Tensas Basin, Kidder suggests that corn (*Zea mays*) was not a significant portion of the diet at this time, but that subsistence was based primarily on small game hunting, fishing and the gathering of wild foods (Kidder 1993).

The Routon phase (A.D. 1050 to A.D. 1200) includes late Coles Creek times. This phase is marked by a ceramic complex that foreshadows the succeeding Plaquemine culture. Key ceramics include Avoyelles Punctated, *vars. Dupree* and *Tatum*; Beldeau Incised, *var. Bell Bayou*; Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; Evansville Punctated, *var. Sharkey*; Harrison Bayou Incised,

var. Manchac; Hollyknowe Pinched, *var. Patmos*; and possibly Plaquemine Brushed. Diagnostic lithics seem to be represented by small arrow points of the Alba Stemmed type (Kidder 1990:59-60). Work at the Blackwater Site (16TE101), a Preston Phase site in the Tensas Basin, indicates a slight increase in the amount of *Zea mays* consumed (Kidder 1993). Summing up the Coles Creek period proper, Kidder writes:

Mound sites are found throughout the Coles Creek period in the Lower Ouachita, and their number and size increase through time...At least one large mound group, the Logtown Mounds south of Monroe...was erected during the Logtown or possibly the Crawford phase. The Pritchard Landing site...appears to have reached its greatest size during the Pritchard Landing phase, and at that time it may have been one of the largest sites in north Louisiana (Kidder 1990:60).

Plaquemine Period

The end of the Coles Creek period around A.D. 1200 sees the emergence of a number of new cultural traits, not the least of which was a heavy reliance of corn (*Zea mays*) for subsistence (Kidder 1993). In the Lower Ouachita Valley, these traits define a culture that is similar to the Plaquemine culture of the Lower Mississippi Valley, although it also contains elements of the cultures in the Felsenthal region to the north, in what is now Arkansas. The initial phase for this period is called Pargoud (A.D. 1200-1450) after the Pargoud Landing site (16OU1). Kidder sees this as a time during which groups from the Felsenthal region to the north expanded down the Ouachita Valley into contact with heavy influence from Lower Mississippi Valley groups of the Bartholomew phase of the Plaquemine culture (Kidder 1990:63). Consequently, Pargoud phase ceramics show similarities to both Felsenthal pottery and pottery of the Plaquemine culture. Common decoration consisted of brushing, engraving, pinching, incising and punctation. Notching and punctation are especially noteworthy as means of decorating vessel rims. In addition, Pargoud ceramics generally have more than one design field (Kidder 1990:63).

Salient ceramic types include Addis Plain; Avoyelles Punctated, *var. Myatt's Landing*; Baytown Plain, *var. Shallow Lake*; Coles Creek Incised, *var. Hardy*; various versions of Coleman Incised; Hollyknowe Pinched; L'Eau Noire Incised, *var. L'Eau Noire*; Mazique Incised, *var. Manchac*; Pargoud Incised, *vars. Pargoud and Monroe*; Pease Brushed Incised, *var. Pease*; and Sinner Linear Punctated, *var. Sinner*. Other types that might be expected are Evansville Punctated, Harrison Bayou Incised and, occasionally, Plaquemine Brushed. Lithics might be expected to include Alba Stemmed, *vars. Ashley and Catahoula* (Kidder 1990:63).

Pargoud phase sites are common in the Lower Ouachita Basin to about Columbia, Louisiana, and include the type site (16OU1), the T. E. Salsbury site (16OU15), the Myatt's Landing site (16OU3), the Coles Point site (16OU132), the McHenry site (16OU165), the Wood's site (16CA62), the Keno site (16MO31), the Glendora site (16OU18), and the Filhiol or Gerson mound site (16OU2). Settlement patterns include mound groups and non-mound village sites, with most occupation along rivers and smaller tributary streams. Mortuary activity occurred both in mounds and in village cemeteries (Kidder 1990:63-64). At the T. E. Salsbury site (16OU15), burials accompanied by grave goods were placed in pits in a spatially distinct mortuary area (Kidder 1990:64; Price and Heartfield 1977).

It is important to note that while the Pargoud phase pertains to the early Mississippi period, the cultural traits resemble a local variant of the Plaquemine culture of the Lower Mississippi Valley combined with influences from the Felsenthal region to the north. By AD. 1400, however, Mississippian cultural traits begin to appear in the area, so that by A.D. 1450 Kidder considers it appropriate to define a new phase for the Lower Ouachita. He calls this phase Kinniard (A.D. 1450-1550). This phase “represents the initial presence of Mississippian influences into south-central Arkansas and northeast Louisiana” (Kidder 1990:68). Diagnostic ceramics include Barton Incised, *var. Midnight*; Mississippi Plain, *var. Bonita*; Parkin Punctated, *var. Bouef Brake*; Pease Brushed Incised, *var. Sycamore*; Pouncy Pinched, *var. unspecified*; and Winterville Incised, *vars. Belzoni and Winterville*. Sites along the Lower Ouachita with Kinniard components include T. E. Salisbury (16OU15) and Myatt’s Landing (16OU17).

The Kinniard phase settlement pattern seems to have involved both floodplain and terrace occupations. There was continued occupation of mound sites and possible new mound construction. Most sites, however, are small hamlets or villages on levees or terraces along Bayou Bartholomew and the Ouachita River. Survey data suggest that Columbia is the southernmost extent of this phase (Kidder 1990:68-69). Settlement and subsistence data are scanty, but there is a well-developed site hierarchy of large mound groups, subsidiary mounds, and small villages (Kidder 1990:69). On the whole, “Very few late Mississippi period markers have been located in the southern lower Ouachita region” (Kidder 1990:69).

By A.D. 1550, the region was on the verge of dramatic changes due to the arrival of the first European explorers. The earliest protohistoric phase, Glendora I (A.D. 1550 to 1650), indicates a moderate population for the lower Ouachita with a dispersed population living in small hamlets and villages. The type-site for this phase, the Glendora site (16OU18), is known for its distinctive ceramics, which Moore (1909) originally identified as Caddoan. Later analyses, however, have placed the ceramics clearly within a local indigenous tradition (Belmont 1985; Kidder 1990:72). The Glendora II phase (A.D. 1650-1700) was a period when refugee populations from other areas seem to have gravitated to the confluence of Bayou Bartholomew, Bayou DeSiard, and the Ouachita River. Kidder writes that, “The settlement pattern is dramatically circumscribed and consists of only four villages... This population nucleation was short-lived and probably lasted no later than ca. A.D. 1700-1710” (Kidder 1990:72).

CHAPTER IV: HISTORY OF THE PROJECT AREA

Spanish Exploration

European explorers, lured by prospects of gold, began exploring the southeastern United States within decades after Columbus' arrival in the New World. Early exploration efforts, however, ignored much of Louisiana. The Spaniard Cabeza de Vaca, a member of the ill-fated Panfilo de Narvaez expedition, sailed along the coast of southwest Louisiana in 1527 on his way to Texas, but did not travel into the interior (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43).

Hernando de Soto's expedition from 1539-1543 was the first major European exploration into the interior of the southeastern United States. The information from that expedition is important to both history and prehistory because of the picture it offers of North America at the time of initial contact with Europeans. During the late 1930s, the Federal government established a commission to determine the route De Soto took (Swanton 1939), but decades later the exact route remains controversial. Recent archaeological discoveries, such as Calvin Jones' discovery of De Soto's encampment near Tallahassee, Florida, have verified certain parts of his route, but his route through Louisiana is still debated (Weber 1992:50-55).

In March and April of 1542, De Soto and his men followed the Ouachita River south, probably on the higher, western side, traveling into the province of Anilco or Nilco. According to the De Soto Expedition Commission, the expedition was probably south of what is now Monroe, Louisiana. De Soto and his men had problems going through swamps and trying to find a place to cross the swollen Ouachita River (the River of Anilco). After much study of the expedition record and Louisiana geography, John Swanton (1939) concluded that Harrisonburg was the location of the town of Anilco, the capital of the province. At Anilco, De Soto was supposed to have encountered several mounds, causing another source to assume that Anilco was Jonesville (Swanton 1939:267-271, 280; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:468).

Other scholars have analyzed the De Soto expedition chronicles and arrived at different conclusions. In 1542, De Soto was looking for the Mississippi River and a quick route to the Gulf of Mexico when he came to Anilco. This may have actually been farther north, in what is now Arkansas, nowhere near present-day Harrisonburg. De Soto died in 1542, and after further wanderings, his men returned to Anilco and then eventually down the Mississippi, after which they followed the coast line of the Gulf back to Mexico (Clayton et al. 1993:130-132, 148-154, 210).

French Exploration and Settlement

During the late seventeenth century, the French began scouting the major waterways of North America. Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, explored the Red and Mississippi rivers in the 1680s and named Louisiana for the French King, but did not travel into north Louisiana. In 1700, Jean Baptiste le Moyne, Sieur d' Bienville, and Louis Juchereau St. Denis explored the Ouachita River and some of the nearby hill country of Louisiana. France quickly recognized the potential of Louisiana and established settlements along the Mississippi, Red, and Ouachita rivers during the early 18th century in order to maintain their claim to the territory. In 1703, St. Denis established a

temporary settlement on the Ouachita near the site of present-day Monroe. In 1714, he also founded what eventually became the most important French settlement in north Louisiana: the post at Natchitoches (Williamson and Goodman 1939:9-28; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43).

St. Denis also helped blaze the portion of the *Camino Real*, or King's Highway, between Natchez (Fort Rosalie) and Natchitoches, through what eventually became Harrisonburg. Even so, land travel was not easy, even in the uplands, so settlements continued to be centered on major waterways. Gradually, pioneers moved into central Louisiana along the Red and Ouachita rivers. Although the Red River provided an important transportation corridor into northern Louisiana, it was not without obstacles for travelers. The Great Raft, a natural mass of lumber and debris that blocked the river, developed upstream from Natchitoches. Downriver from the raft, at what is now Alexandria, were the rapids for which Rapides Parish was named. These rapids usually forced travelers to portage around them on long established Indian paths. This portage left travelers vulnerable to attack, so in 1724 the French established a small post there to protect settlers (Guinn et al. 1983:3; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43; Flores 1984:111).

Colonial Louisiana

By 1740, French settlers were scattered along the Mississippi, Red, and Ouachita rivers but political events in Europe changed the course of settlement in Louisiana and limited the French influence. In 1762, France ceded Louisiana to Spain under the Treaty of Fontainebleau. But in 1763 with the Treaty of Paris, Spain relinquished the territory of West Florida to Great Britain in exchange for Havana. West Florida included the land east of the Mississippi River and west of the Appalachian River, but north of Bayou Manchac and Lakes Maurepas and Pontchartrain (Williamson and Goodman 1939:9-28; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43).

By 1765, Spain took control of Louisiana and subsequently encouraged colonization by granting land and provisions to settlers. In order for Spain to maintain its claim to north Louisiana and to protect settlers, it established Fort Miro in 1785, and named the Frenchman Don Juan Filhiol (Jean Baptiste Filhiol) as commandant (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43; Williamson and Goodman 1939:9-59; Hardin 1937:459-484).

Unfortunately for Great Britain, Spain continued to control the mouth of the Mississippi River and New Orleans, both of great strategic importance. In 1779, during the American Revolutionary War, Spain declared war against Great Britain and as a consequence reclaimed West Florida (Williamson and Goodman 1939:9-28; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:37-43). In 1795, the Spanish government granted land to the Marquis de Maison Rouge to settle families in the Ouachita River area, but he died four years later without having settled the land. A similar grant from Governor Carondelet to Felipe Enrique Neri, the Baron De Bastrop, proved to be more successful, but most of the land was sold to Americans after the turn of the eighteenth century (Williamson and Goodman 1939:5-6, 29-59).

American Acquisition and Exploration

Settlement of the north Louisiana frontier was disrupted again when, after four decades of

rule, Spain ceded Louisiana back to France under the Treaty of San Ildefonso. In 1803, the United States acquired Louisiana from France. After the Louisiana Purchase, President Thomas Jefferson recognized the need to scientifically explore the area west of the Mississippi River. In the interest of exploration, settlement, and natural science, Jefferson sent two expeditions into Louisiana to report on the natural flora, fauna, and physical geography of the Red River. In addition to scientific curiosity, Jefferson was interested in the Red River because it was believed to be a good route to Santa Fe. Having sent his best naturalist-explorers on the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Jefferson relied on his friend William Dunbar to lead an expedition in Louisiana. Dunbar was familiar with the Mississippi River area, having established plantations near Natchez and Baton Rouge in the late 1700s. In the fall and winter of 1804-1805, Dunbar and Dr. George Hunter led a short expedition up the Red and Ouachita rivers. Then, in April of 1806, the Jefferson-backed Thomas Freeman and Peter Custis Expedition left Fort Adams below Natchez to explore the Red River to its source. The report for the expedition provided future settlers with an accurate description of the land and travel conditions up the Ouachita and Red Rivers (Flores 1984:3-45, 99).

Early Settlement

The first settlements on the Ouachita were short-lived trading posts, but after Spain took over the Louisiana Purchase, more of an effort was made to settle the area. The area where Monroe is now located was known as “Prairie des Canots” and was used as a trading center. To promote permanent settlement, Don Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish governor, appointed Don Juan Filhiol to establish a post on the Ouachita River at Prairie des Canots. Filhiol had served Spain in campaigns against the British in Louisiana, and had married a woman from the post at Opelousas, Francoise Poret Berqueville Filhiol. Esteban Miro replaced Galvez as governor and Filhiol changed the name of the fort from “Post de Ouachita” to “Fort Miro.” Construction of Fort Miro began in 1790 and was completed the following year (Hardin 1937:459-484; Williams 1982:v-18; Ouachita Council of Governments and Monroe-Ouachita Regional Planning Commission 1976:18-19).

After acquisition by the United States, Louisiana was divided into two territories. The Territory of Orleans, present day Louisiana minus the Florida Parishes, was divided into twelve parishes, one of which was Ouachita Parish. In 1812, the State of Louisiana was admitted to the Union and more settlers began to trickle into north and central Louisiana. According to Philip Cook, the early settlers in north Louisiana lived in crude log cabins and survived by hunting and farming. Their chief contribution was to open the frontier for the next wave of settlers. Many early settlers were squatters largely because the U.S. Government did not make the land available for purchase until the 1820s. In general, the large planters, and the commercial interests that catered to them, were located on the east bank of the Ouachita River, while small farmers settled into the hills on the west bank (Allen 1974:4; Martin 1984:143-144; Cook 1984:23-48; Ouachita Council of Governments and Monroe-Ouachita Regional Planning Commission 1976:23).

As the population of north and central Louisiana grew, new parishes were created from the old parishes. The Louisiana legislature created Caldwell Parish in 1838 out of portions of Ouachita and Catahoula Parishes (Louisiana Legislative Council 1964:281).

Economic Base

The area that became Ouachita and Caldwell Parishes was originally settled by hunters and trappers, but they were quickly joined by small farmers, planters, and businessmen. By 1788, products from the Ouachita Basin included 7,000 quarts of bear oil, 2,000 deer skins, 2,000 pounds of suet, and 500 beaver pelts. Cotton was introduced into the area about 1800, and the first area gins were built about 1803. Lumbering also supported the economy; mills were established around 1800. Agriculture gradually became the basis for the economy. In 1808, explorer William Darby reported that wheat and cotton were being grown near the Ouachita River. The availability of agricultural land and reports like Darby's encouraged settlement and population growth in northern Louisiana. This led to an upsurge in population growth during the 1840s and 1850s as settlers moved in from the southeastern states. As settlers moved further west, the parishes derived some economic benefit from those heading west (Allen 1974:26-32; Trout 1969:1-5).

Early settlers in north Louisiana had few options for overland transportation other than the old Spanish trail. They largely relied upon the bayous that were navigable by steamboats only during the wet seasons. Lack of rainfall in the late summer and fall limited river transportation at a time when farmers needed to ship crops to market, and in flood years river transportation expanded. Freight rates rose and fell with the level of the water. Steamboats provided the lifeline for northern parishes, carrying staple goods and other merchandise up river like a traveling store and returning down river with crops and cotton bales (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:362-363).

Judge H. Bry of Ouachita Parish commented on the economic situation in northern Louisiana for *DeBow's Commercial Review* in 1847. He suggested that although the soil was "good second-rate," it would be suitable for growing cotton, tobacco, indigo, and wheat. Bry also promoted the cultivation of silk worms and grapes. Of the abundant natural resources, Bry rated the Bois d'Arc (Osage Orange) highly and suggested that it would serve as fodder for silk worms; provide a source for good hard wood; and provide a source for a yellow dye (Bry 1847:226-229).

Although Caldwell and Ouachita Parishes were settled largely by small farmers, there were several hundred slaves in the area. Neither parish had many large slaveholders (those who held 50 or more slaves). According to the statistical research and analysis of Joseph Menn in *The Large Slaveholders of Louisiana - 1860*, Caldwell Parish had 7 large slaveholders with 660 slaves, while Ouachita Parish had 12 large slaveholders with 905 slaves (Menn 1964:168-169; 292-294).

Ouachita Parish benefited from Monroe becoming an important commercial hub. Rail transportation came to the parish in 1860, making Monroe an important center for transportation of agricultural and timber products in north Louisiana. In 1916, natural gas was discovered in the Monroe Gas Field. The availability of energy for industry helped further diversify the area economy. By the late 1930s, Monroe's economic base included natural gas, carbon black production, lumber, and cotton (Ouachita Council of Governments and Monroe-Ouachita Regional Planning Commission 1976:23-25; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:291-292).

Columbia also became a commercial hub, serving Caldwell, Winn, Grant, LaSalle, and Catahoula Parishes. Initially, cotton served as Caldwell Parish's principal export, but later lumber became an important export (Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:602-603; Woods 1972:6-7).

Monroe

The town of Monroe, developed on the site of Fort Miro, was established by the Spanish in 1785. As the surrounding area became settled, Fort Miro changed from a frontier outpost into more of a trading center. In 1804, the population of the Fort Miro area included 450 white settlers and 50 to 60 slaves. As a center of trade, Monroe served as a geographic dividing line between small farmers and planters; and between timber tracts and cotton plantations. The east bank of the Ouachita River was largely settled by large cotton planters; the west bank by small farmers (Allen 1974:31; Ouachita Council of Governments and Monroe-Ouachita Regional Planning Commission 1976:23-25; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:291).

Lack of reliable transportation curtailed town development until 1819, when the first steamboat, the "James Monroe," made it up the Ouachita River. The town's economy grew because of the improved transportation, and in 1820 the town was chartered and named Monroe for the steamboat. Railroad construction connecting Shreveport and Vicksburg via Monroe in 1860 solidified the position of the latter as the principal commercial center of the region. By the late 1930s, Monroe was the fourth largest city in Louisiana with a population of over 26,000 (Allen 1974:31; Ouachita Council of Governments and Monroe-Ouachita Regional Planning Commission 1976:23-25; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:291). Since that time, Monroe has grown to become the major population center for northeast Louisiana, with 54,909 inhabitants in 1990 (Calhoun 2002:179).

Columbia

Daniel Humphries cleared the site for the town of Columbia in 1827. Located on the west bank of the Ouachita River and the only settlement between Monroe and the Black River, Columbia proved to be a good location for a trading post. James Stokes built the first store in the 1830s. The first post office was established in the community in 1837, one year before the creation of Caldwell Parish. The population grew as Columbia became a trading port for steamboat traffic; cotton was shipped downstream while manufactured goods were sold in Columbia. After the Civil War, the Blanks Line steamboat company was headquartered in Columbia (Woods 1983:8; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:602-603; Woods 1976:4748, 232).

The Columbia community developed gradually, suffering periodical setbacks. It experienced a yellow fever outbreak in 1856 and as a result sustained a population decrease. In 1876 the town burned, losing every business. The town burned again in 1900 and 1909. Columbia lost commerce in the 1890s when the railroad was built through the area, but experienced a building boom in the teens (Woods 1976:8-10, 364; Louisiana Work Projects Administration 1941:602-603). In 1990, Columbia had 386 inhabitants (Calhoun 2002:175) and Caldwell Parish

had a total of 10,560, the latter reflecting statistics from the year 2000 (Calhoun 2002:711).

CHAPTER V: PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

A number of professional investigations have been carried out in this area. Briefly, they may be divided into three categories: (1) pioneer studies of the pre-1940 period; (2) post-1960 academic investigations that were part of problem-oriented research; and (3) contract archaeology, which includes the work both of private and public contractors. A fourth type of investigation that also is reflected in the site files derives from the work of amateurs, but will not be dealt with in any detail here, because it is sporadic.

Early Studies

Cyrus Thomas, of the Smithsonian Institution, was perhaps the first professional archaeologist to investigate this area. Thomas, who laid to rest the mound builder myth by proving that the mounds that dotted the fields of the Eastern United States had been constructed by the direct ancestors of the American Indians, focused on the Midwest for his monumental study. His maps show little concern for the mounds of Louisiana. Nevertheless, he was aware of these structures, for in 1894 he visited the Pargoud Landing site (16OU1) and described two mounds there (Price 1979).

A somewhat more sustained investigation was carried out by Clarence Bloomfield Moore, a wealthy antiquarian who traveled the rivers and bayous of the Southeast from the late 1890s until approximately 1915. Moore's transportation was his small steamship, *The Gopher*, and he managed to visit a large number of archaeological sites in several states. Unlike many antiquarians of his day, however, Moore was a careful recorder and respected the scientific method. He submitted osteological materials to Ales Hrdlicka, of the Smithsonian, who was the foremost physical anthropologist of his time. In addition, Moore published his results in several volumes of the *Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*.

One of Moore's forays was along the Ouachita River in 1908. He investigated the Cut-Off Landing Site (16OU5) in Ouachita Parish; Ragland Landing (16OU32), a few miles below Cut-Off Landing; and Myatt's Landing (16OU17), 15 mi (24.2 km) below Monroe. In the latter, his two and a half days of digging yielded 38 Indian burials, many mussel shells, and 17 earthenware vessels which he felt represented the Caddoan culture. He also reported on Logtown Landing, but was unable to actually visit the site due to the owner's refusal to give him permission (Moore 1909).

Academic Research

T. R. Kidder, in an excellent review article, points out that academic research in this area languished during the six decades after Moore's 1909 visit (Kidder 1990:55). The last quarter century, though, has seen a dramatic increase in archaeological studies. In the summers of 1975, 1976, 1977, and 1979, excavations were carried out at the Pargoud Site (16OU1) by Glenn Greene,

although this work has never been fully published (Price 1979). Other important excavations were conducted by Price and Heartfield (1977) at the T. E. Salsburg Site (16OU15), near Monroe.

By the mid-1980s, another important development occurred. This was the publication, in 1985, of an entire issue of *Louisiana Archaeology* devoted to the archaeology of the Ouachita River Valley. This volume contained several noteworthy articles, including a review of previous work along the Ouachita River in Louisiana (Gibson 1985a), an article on Ouachita prehistory as it was then understood (Gibson 1985b), a study of mounds along the Ouachita River (Gibson 1985c) and a reevaluation of previous data by Belmont (1985). One of the most significant of the contributions to that issue was a study by Recca Jones of 34 archaeological sites along a 76.9 mi (124 km) segment of the Ouachita River between the mouth of Bayou Bartholomew and Riverton (Jones 1985). In this paper she reported on several sites first visited by Moore; on others investigated by Manning Durham, a local amateur; and on several others previously unknown in the archaeological literature. Of particular interest is her description of the Gerson or Filhiol site (16OU2), a few miles below Monroe. She described a collection of vessels, presumably recovered by Durham, and burials between the mound and the Ouachita River. She also mentions the Euroamerican cemetery on the mound's summit. She assigns the site to the span A.D. 1200 to 1500, which would place it within the Mississippian period.

Also in the early 1980s, the Lower Mississippi Survey of Harvard University conducted projects in the Boeuf and Ouachita Basins. Under Richard Fuller, a group of six persons spent ten weeks covering 269 mi² (700 km²) in the Boeuf Basin. This team recorded 187 sites and 36 spot finds. Some 42,000 artifacts were recovered, reflecting an occupation from Paleo-Indian through late Mississippian times. The largest site studied was 16OU6, over .3 mi (.5 km) long. Even so, Fuller and his colleagues were able to cover less than 10% of their project area in the time allotted (Fuller 1985). Most of the survey was north and east of Monroe, so that it actually does not involve the current project area. It is mentioned to illustrate the heavy concentrations of prehistoric sites that may be expected to be found in the alluvial valleys of Louisiana. As a result of this survey and limited test excavations, Kidder was able to propose a revised chronology for the Boeuf Basin and to add data to our archaeological knowledge of the lower Ouachita area (Kidder 1988; 1990).

Contract Archaeology

Finally, reference must be made of the work of contract archaeologists. While, in many cases, their studies proved of less theoretical import than the work of more problem-oriented researchers, several of the contract undertakings are of relevance here.

In the first of a number of projects dealing with the Ouachita River and its tributaries, Heartfield and Price (1976) surveyed parts of the Monroe to Sandy Bayou levee for the Corps of Engineers. They examined 14 mi (22.6 km) along the east bank of the Ouachita and found nine sites and 23 locations. They mentioned sites 16OU15 and 16OU26 as possibly being significant, even though these sites had been damaged. They also mention an antebellum structure, 16OU25, which "should be considered for the National Registry (sic) of Historic Places..." (Heartfield and Price 1976:36). They concluded that during Paleo-Indian times the occupation of the study area was sparse or absent, and during the Archaic it was sparse, but present. Occupation increased

during the Neo-Indian period (Heartfield and Price 1976). In 1977 Heartfield et al. (1977) also carried out a literature survey of the Arkansas River Basin, covering parts of both Louisiana and Arkansas, and this set the stage for a surge of Corps of Engineers projects along the Ouachita, beginning with Price and Greene's survey in 1977 that covered the Ouachita River as far south as Catahoula Parish (Price and Greene 1977). A final 1977 work was Gibson's survey of several drainages in a number of northeast Louisiana parishes, including Caldwell Parish, for the Corps of Engineers (Gibson 1977). Another extensive study by the same firm was that of Price (1980), under contract to the Corps of Engineers (Vicksburg District), who examined 22 areas in the Jonesville and Columbia pools. In Caldwell Parish, Price listed 16CA12, 40, 42, and 50 as sites not to be impacted. He considered 16CA41 and 16CA46 as potentially National Register eligible sites and worth avoiding. He suggested 16CA1, 7, 17, 19, 32-39, 44, 45, 47, 49 and 54 were not eligible. In Ouachita Parish, Price reported 16OU42, 113 and 125 to be in the impact area and he felt they were worth avoiding, because they might be eligible for the National Register. He considered sites 16OU109 and 16OU114-123 not to be significant. He reported that 16OU21 was already destroyed. Subsequent projects were conducted by Kelley (1981), of the Columbia lock and dam system; by Thomson and Walling (1993), who surveyed areas of levee repair in Morehouse, Ouachita, and Caldwell parishes; by Panamerican Consultants (1998), who surveyed levees in the same three parishes; and by Sherman (2000), who conducted a survey of the proposed Bayou De Chene reservoir and reported ten new cultural resources, of which one (16CA106) was judged eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

In other cultural resource studies for this general area, Price (1977) prepared a report for the environmental assessment of the wastewater collection and treatment works for Columbia Heights in Caldwell Parish. He mentioned two previously recorded archaeological sites (16CA5 and 16CA6) and concluded neither would be disturbed. Site 16CA5 is located on the grounds of an abandoned drive-in theater, while 16CA6 is just south of Frances' Restaurant in Columbia, but the site had evidently been destroyed, because only a few mussel shells were found.

Other significant cultural resources work in this area has taken place in connection with highway projects.

In 1975, Heartfield and Clendenen evaluated several alternate routes for a proposed North-South Expressway or 1-49 (Heartfield and Clendenen 1975). Included were sections of U.S. Highway 165 adjacent to the Ouachita River in Caldwell and Ouachita Parishes. Two years later this was amplified by additional fieldwork and became a total survey from Charmingdale south to Alexandria (Heartfield et al. 1978). It should be noted that while this report carried the name of Heartfield et al., the bulk of the fieldwork in the area under current consideration was done by a four person team consisting of David Kelley, now of Coastal Environments, Inc., in Baton Rouge; the late Mitchell Hillman; Ross A. Dinwiddie; and Becky Kilmer.

The entire proposed route of 1-49 was examined. This involved a 100 percent survey of the ground area in a 400 ft (121.9 m) wide corridor, 200 ft (61 m) either side of the centerline. They utilized irregularly spaced shovel testing and augering. Screening was initially tried but abandoned. Their survey yielded 15 sites, 12 spot finds, and 16 historic standing structures. The sites they found were: 16GR47, 48, 49, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 16LA70; 16RA41, 42; and spot finds 16XGR3 and 16XOU8. All these were Archaic. The post-Archaic sites they found were: 16CA20;

16GR47, 49, 53, 55; 16OU2, 35, 36; and spot finds 16XOU7 and 16XOU9. The report of the 1977 survey summarizes the work.

Although 40 archaeological components were recognized among the 15 archaeological sites and 12 spot finds, the results are disappointing. Few of the components can be placed within discrete temporal or typological frameworks, greatly limiting the interpretive value of the sample (Heartfield et al. 1978:65).

At the completion of their survey, they listed three prehistoric sites in Ouachita Parish as being significant. These were 16OU2, 16OU35, and 16OU36. These were, respectively, the Filhoil mound, just south of Monroe; an unnamed prehistoric scatter of late Neo-Indian culture, about 0.25 mi (.4 km) south of 16OU2; and an unnamed lithic scatter of Neo-Indian assignment about one mile south of 16OU35. All were on the west side of the highway. The last two sites were considered by Kelley to be outliers of the Filhoil mound site. The Heartfield team recommended highway alignment be changed to avoid all three. In accord with their recommendations, these sites were determined to be eligible for the National Register on November 1, 1977. As it happened, however, the interstate was routed further to the west, paralleling the Red River rather than the Ouachita, and the sites were left uninvestigated for over 15 years.

In 1992, as a result of the revival of interest in a four-lane highway from Alexandria to Monroe, Surveys Unlimited Research Associates, Inc. (SURA) attempted to relocate several of the sites that the NLU team had found in 1977. This work was necessitated by plans to expand U.S. 165 on its western side, and SURA was commissioned to update the site files on those locations within the planned right-of-way. In the course of the survey, Shuman visited and surface collected at 16OU2, 16OU35, and 16OU36, as well as at several other sites both in and out of the right-of-way (Shuman 1992). Subsequently, SURA was contracted to evaluate sites 16OU2, 16OU35 and 16OU36, in Ouachita Parish. They concluded that, while 16OU35 was ineligible for the National register of Historic Places, 16OU2 and 16OU36 were, in fact, eligible and their report provided a data recovery plan for the two sites (Shuman et al. 1994). With the exception of a survey in Columbia, itself, by Fontenot (1998), for DOTD, however, no further cultural resources work was done along this stretch for eight years. In 2002, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) employed Coastal Environments, Inc. (CEI) to locate and evaluate the three sites a second time. The CEI team concurred with SURA's recommendations regarding 16OU2 and 16OU35, but stated that the portion of 16OU36 through which the proposed highway would pass was not eligible for the National Register (Wells 2002). Inasmuch as SURA only stated that 16OU36 *as a whole* was eligible and did not specify the eligibility of the ROW portion of the site, the CEI recommendation was not, as CEI stated in its report, a disagreement with SURA's judgment.

In 2003 as part of the TIMED highway program, SURA surveyed a .9 mi (1.5 km) stretch along US 165 that would be used for a new bridge, but found no cultural materials (Shuman and Shuman 2003).

More recently, Gibson examined a 10 ac 4.0 ha area to be used as an alligator pond but recorded no cultural resources (Gibson 2007).

The development of a regional archaeology program has led to considerable additional investigation for this area (Saunders 1994; 1995; 1996; 1997; 1998; 2000; Saunders et al. 2001). This program has led to both the survey of large areas and the intense investigation of individual sites, although little of note has so far been done in Caldwell Parish.

Finally, several projects in connection with pipelines (i.e., HPG 1981; Ecology & Environment 1992) have been carried out in this general area over the years, as have several smaller scale surveys for municipal entities (e.g., Neuman 1979).

Table 1 presents those projects that have taken place within 1 mi (1.6 km) of the current APE.

Table 1 – Projects within 1 mi (1.6 km) of current APE

Report No.	Author(s)	Type of Survey	Date
22-0451	Price & Greene	River Bank	1977
22-0479	Heartfield et al.	Highway	1978
22-0616	Price	Navigation Channels	1979
22-0691	Kelley	Recreation Area	1981
22-1734	Thompson & Walling	Levees	1993
22-2566	Shuman and Shuman	Highway	2003
22-2975	Gibson	10 acres	2007

CHAPTER VI: METHODOLOGY

Methodology for the survey included archival research and fieldwork. Archival research included review of relevant archaeological reports and an examination of site files in the Division of Archaeology. Historic maps in the Louisiana State University Cartographic Information Center (CIC) were also consulted. Fieldwork consisted of pedestrian survey and systematic shovel testing. Pedestrian survey consisted of lining up five abreast, at the southern end of the survey area, and proceeding north, along transects spaced 98.4 ft (30 m) apart, with each crew person excavating a shovel test pit every 98.4 ft (30 m). All excavated material was screened using .25 inch hardware cloth. Shovel tests were taken to 50 cm or clay, whichever came first. When archaeological sites are discovered, they are defined using the protocol described in the Louisiana Division of Archaeology Guidelines.

Each cultural resource site found is assessed according to current National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria, as given below.

Eligibility for the *National Register of Historic Places*

According to the *National Register of Historic Places Bulletin 15* (NPS 1995:2), “The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.” In order to evaluate this significance, four criteria have been developed. Eligible properties...

- “A. ...are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. ...are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. ...embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. ...have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory” (NPS 1995:2).

Curation Statement

Collected material and associated records are curated by the Louisiana Division of Archaeology (DOA). Upon completion of the project, the artifacts will be delivered to the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, Central Plant North Building 2nd Floor, 1835 North Third St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

CHAPTER VII: RESULTS

Archival Research

Archival research was undertaken to determine what previous projects had been conducted in the vicinity of the APE. The results of this process are presented in the previous chapter. Research was also conducted to learn what archaeological sites had been recorded within 1 mi (1.62 km) of the APE. The results of this procedure are presented in Table 2.

Table 2 – Archaeological sites within 1 mile (1.62 km) of APE (LDOA)

Site No.	Name	Type	Culture(s)	NR Status	Last Visited
16CA55	US Lock & Dam No. 3	Historic	Modern	Not eligible	1982
16CA56	McPherson, Baily, Porter Cem.	Historic	Early 20th Cen.	Not eligible	1982
16CA57	(No Name)	Historic	Modern	Not eligible	1982
16CA80	(No Name)	Pre/His.	Marksville/C. Creek	Unknown	1993
16CA82	(No Name)	Historic	Unknown	Not eligible	1993
16CA82	(No Name)	Pre/His.	Unknown	Not eligible	1993

As may be seen, of the six sites within the prescribed radius, only one site, 16CA80 may be eligible for the NRHP. This is a site with apparent Marksville and Coles Creek deposits; it is not within the current project area.

Historic maps from the Louisiana State University Cartographic Information Center (LSUCIC) were also reviewed. These consisted of the 1935, 1940 and 1957 sheets. The 1935 Riverton, La. 15-minute map shows eleven structures in the APE. There are also two small feeder streams that empty into the Ouachita River (Figure 4).

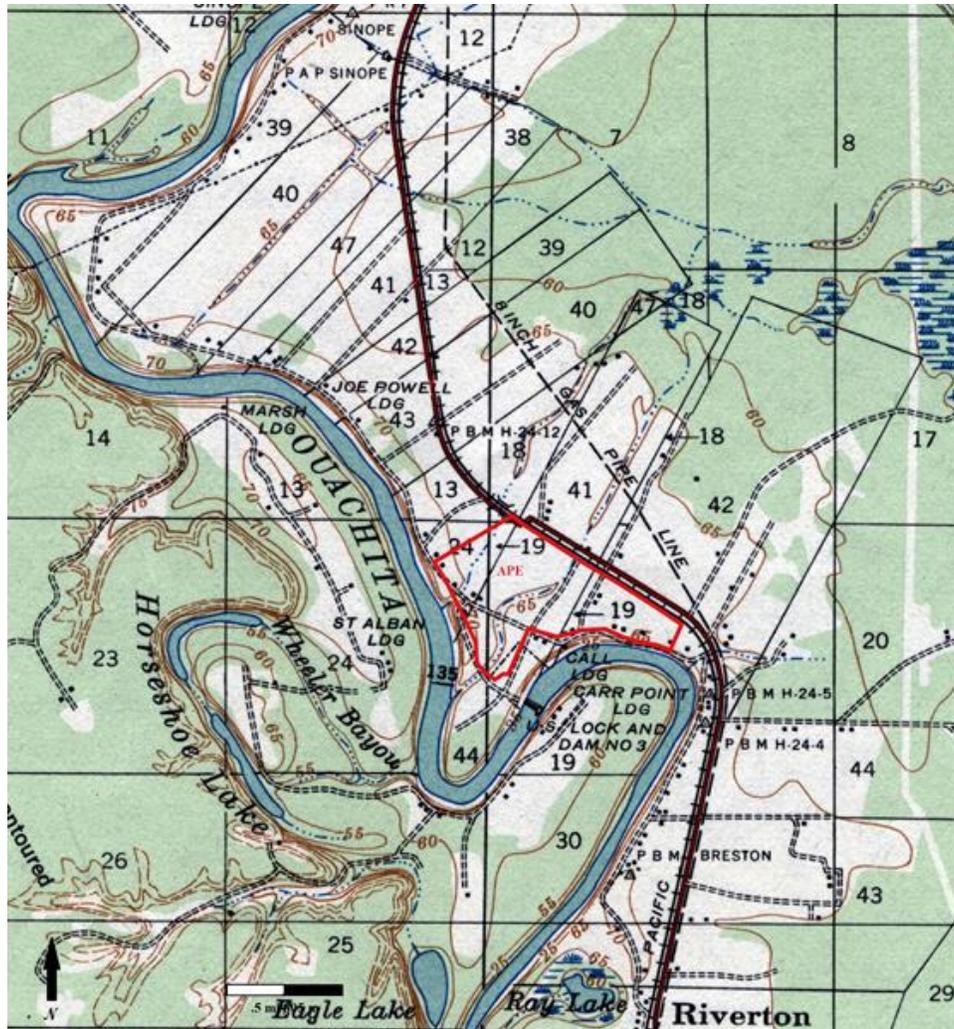


Figure 4 – Portion of Riverton, La. 1935 15-minute map showing APE in red (LSUCIC)

Five years later, in 1940, four of the structures have disappeared and a levee has been constructed, running along the southern border of the APE (Figure 5).

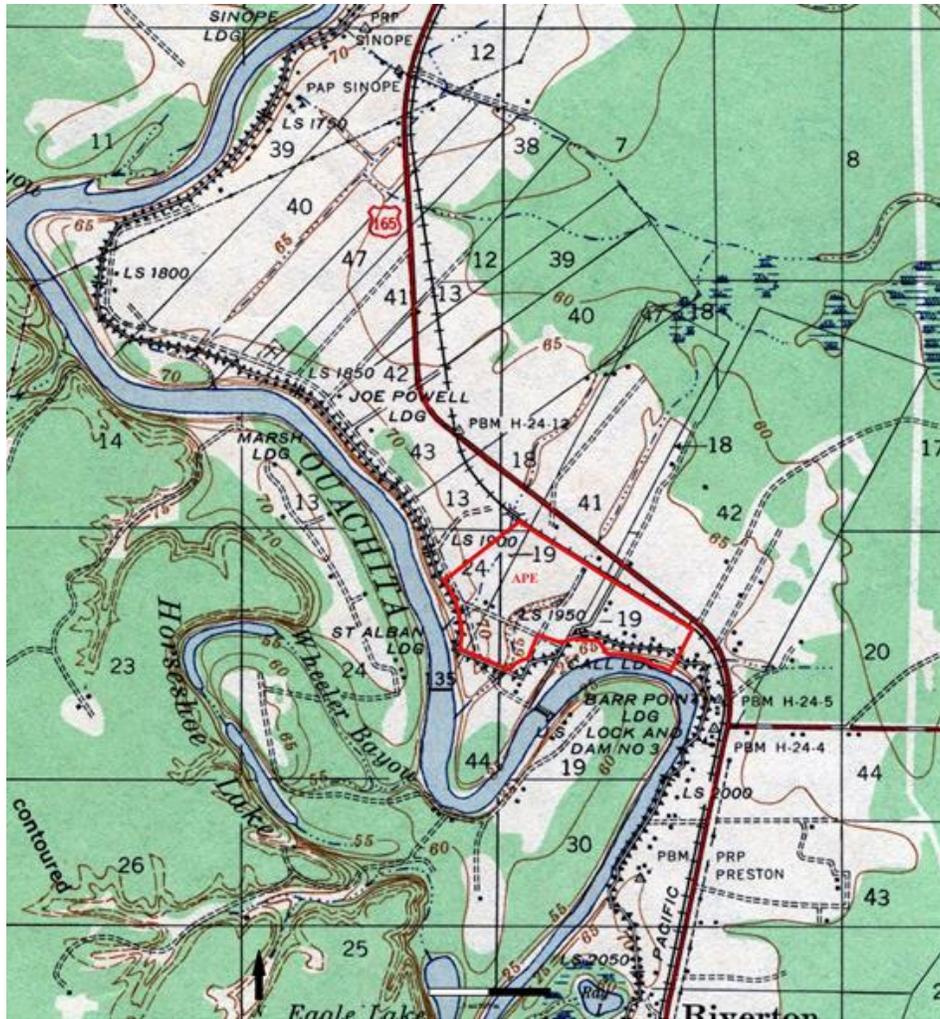


Figure 5 – Portion of Riverton, La. 1940 15-minute map showing APE in red (LSUCIC)

The next issue of this map was in 1957 and it shows only one structure in the APE. In addition, the southernmost small stream has vanished, having been dammed up by the levee (Figure 6).

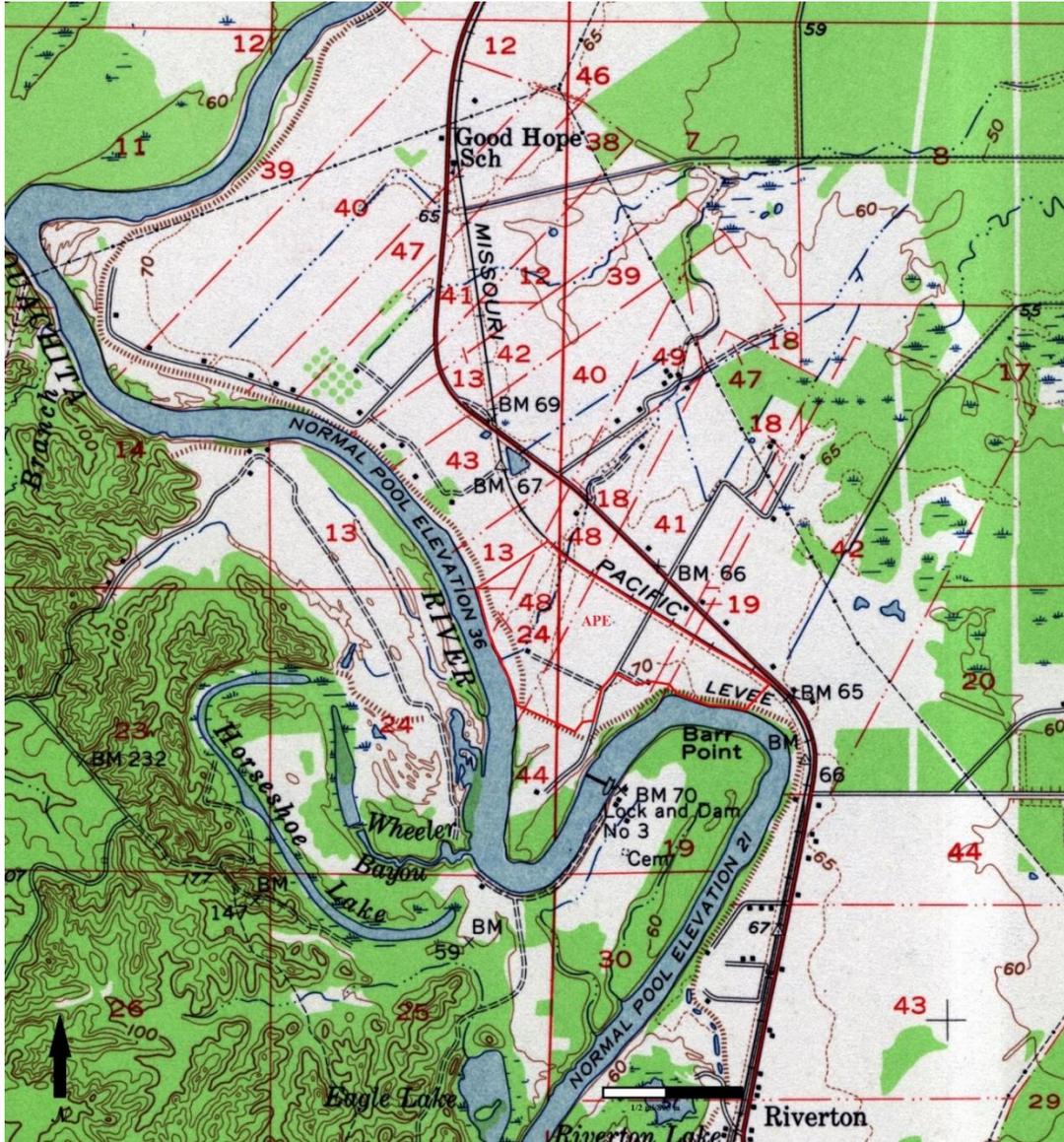


Figure 6 – Portion of Riverton, La. 1957 15-minute map showing APE in red (LSUCIC)

Fieldwork

Field methodology has been described in the previous chapter. The APE was almost exclusively plowed agricultural fields. Figures 7-10 present views of the surveyed area from various locations.



Figure 7 – View from T1ST1 facing west



Figure 8 – View from T13ST22 facing east



Figure 9 – View from T41ST11 facing west



Figure 10 – View from T42ST13 facing west

In the course of the survey, three archaeological sites were encountered; none of these sites were previously recorded. The first, Riverton Camp (16CA134), is a surface scatter on the southwest area of the APE. The site is roughly late nineteenth century to early twentieth century and consisted of historic ceramics, vessel and flat glass, and construction materials.

The second site, Terral (16CA135), is a historic scatter in the center area of the APE. The site is roughly late nineteenth century to early twentieth century and consisted of historic ceramics, vessel and flat glass, corroded iron, and construction materials.

The third site, Ouachita Levee (16CA136), is a prehistoric and historic scatter in the eastern area of the APE. The prehistoric aspect ranges from 400 to 700 C.E. and the historic from the mid nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. The artifacts consisted of prehistoric pottery, historic ceramics, vessel and flat glass, corroded iron nails and spikes, a lead shotshell bullet, and construction materials.

The locations of all three sites are depicted in Figure 11.



Figure 11 – Aerial photograph showing the three sites encountered during fieldwork, 16CA134, 16CA135, and 16CA136 (Google Earth)

Riverton Camp Site (16CA134)

This site, covering approximately 1 Acre (0.4 hectares), was all surface scatter. The site is bounded by a wooden fence to the west and a levee to the south. The site has been heavily disturbed due to agricultural plowing. Figure 12 depicts the location of the site. Figure 13 details a site map, and Figure 14 shows a view from the site. Table 3 illustrates the soil profile, and Table 4 is a list of the recovered artifacts preceding a brief explanation.



Figure 12 – Detail of aerial photo showing Riverton Camp site (16CA134) (Google Earth)

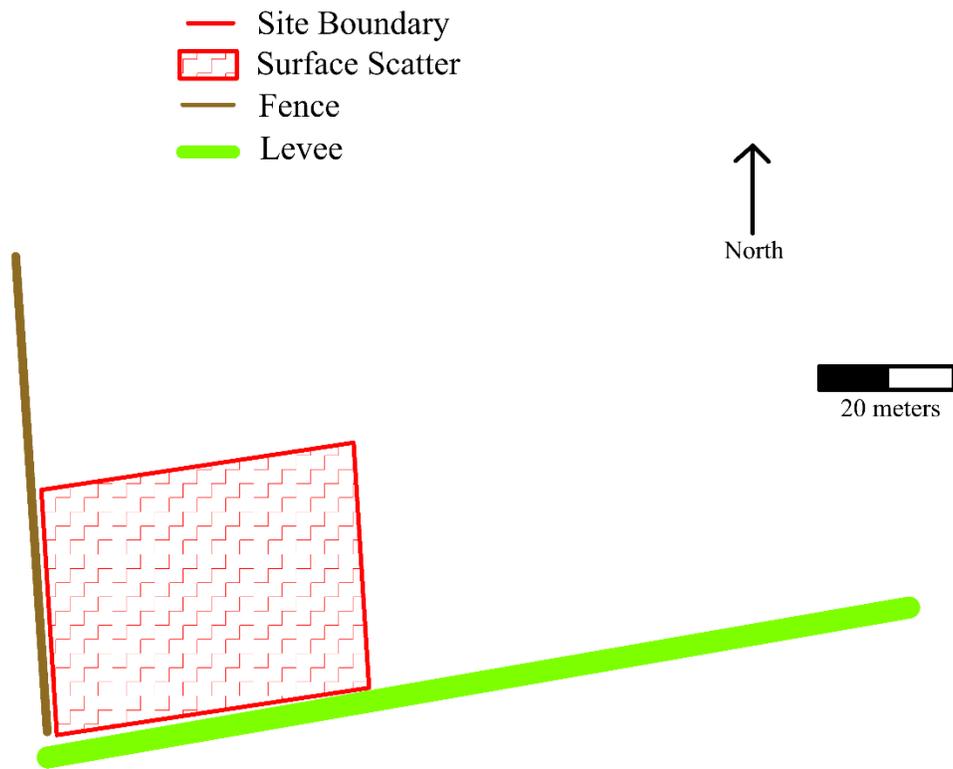


Figure 13 – Site map of Riverton Camp site (16CA134) showing surface scatter area



Figure 14 – Facing east from center of surface scatter

Table 3 – Soil profile from Riverton Camp site (16CA134)

Location	Depth	Munsell	Description	Notes
Center	0-10 cmbs	10 YR 3/3	Silty clay	
	11-50 cmbs	10 YR 3/2	Silty clay	Mottled with 2.5 YR 3/3

Table 4 – Artifacts from Riverton Camp site (16CA134)

	LOCATION	
	Surface	TOTAL
Ceramics		
Whiteware		
Decorated		
Transfer	30	30
Hand-painted	6	6
Flow Blue	3	3
Banded	2	2
Sponge	1	1
Decalcomania	4	4
Maker's Mark	1	1
Other	2	2
Stoneware		
Bristol Slip	1	1
Albany Slip	1	1
Salt Glaze	5	5
Manganese Glaze	1	1
Ironstone		
Plain	89	89
Other	1	1
Pearlware		
Plain	1	1
Decorated		
Shell edge	1	1
Yellowware		
Plain	3	3
Decorated	1	1
Porcelain		
Plain	18	18
Decorated		
Decalcomania	3	3
Button		

Four Hole	1	1
Glass		
Bottle (Curved)	31	31
Window (Flat)	4	4
Milk	11	11
Construction Material		
Brick		
Fire	1	1
Mortar	2	2
Bone		
Mammal	1	1
TOTAL	225	225

Some of the artifacts recovered from this site are depicted in Figures 15-18.



Figure 15 – Blue shell edged pearlware, surface



Figure 16 – Plain yellowware, surface



Figure 17 – Plain ironstone, surface



Figure 18 – Bristol slipped stoneware, surface

The materials recovered from this site suggest a late nineteenth to early twentieth century occupation. Of the 174 ceramic sherds recovered, 51.72% ($n=90$) were ironstone, 28.16% ($n=49$) were whiteware, 12.07% ($n=21$) were porcelain, 4.6% ($n=8$) were stoneware, 2.3% ($n=4$) were yellowware, and 1.15% ($n=2$) were pearlware.

Curved (vessel) glass accounted for thirty-one shards and flat (window) glass was four shards. Brick fragments were recorded and discarded in the field.

Terral Site (16CA135)

This site, covering 0.9 acres (0.36 hectares), was a historic scatter. The site is bounded by Riverton Camp Road to the south and is southwest of the Terral Rock Yard. The site has been heavily disturbed due to agricultural plowing. Figure 19 depicts the location of the site. Figure 20 details a site map, and Figure 21 shows a view from the site. Table 5 illustrates the soil profile, and Table 6 is a list of the recovered artifacts preceding a brief explanation.



Figure 19 – Detail of aerial photo showing Terral site (16CA135) (Google Earth)

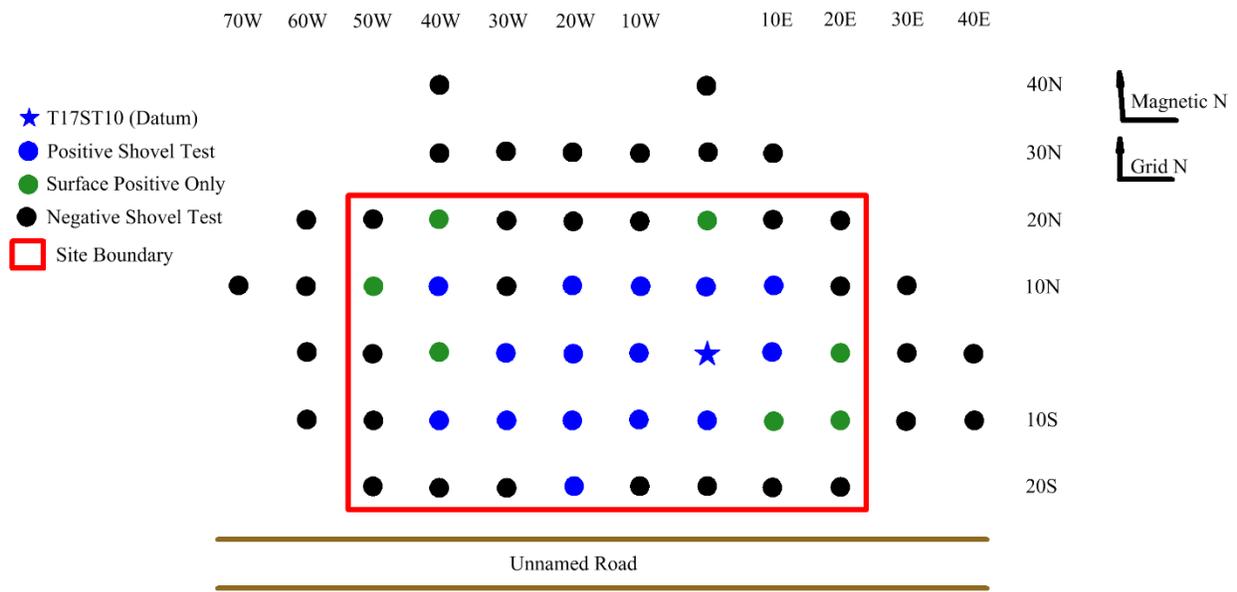


Figure 20 – Site map of Terral site (16CA135) showing shovel test locations



Figure 21 – Facing south from datum

Table 5 – Soil profile from Terral site (16CA135)

Location	Depth	Munsell	Description	Notes
Datum	0-10 cmbs	10 YR 3/3	Silty loam	
	11-30 cmbs	10 YR 3/2	Silty clay	
	31-50 cmbs	10 YR 3/4	Silty clay	Mottled with 10 YR 5/6

Table 6A – Artifacts from Terral site (16CA135)

	LOCATION																TOTAL	
	Surface	Datum	10 N, 40 W	10 N, 20 W	10 N, 10 W	10 N	10 N, 10 E	30 W	20 W	10 W	10 E	10 S, 40 W	10 S, 30 W	10 S, 20 W	10 S, 10 W	10 S		20 S, 20 W
Ceramics																		
Whiteware																		
Plain			1															1
Stoneware																		
Salt and Manganese Glaze	8	1				1												10
Salt Glaze	3								1									4
Manganese Glaze	1																	1
Ironstone																		
Plain	30	1		3	1			2	1		1		1		1		1	42
Maker's Mark	1																	1
Decorated																		
Decalcomania	2																	2
Porcelain																		
Plain	2																	2
Decorated																		
Decalcomania	1																	1
Insulator	1																	1

Table 6B - Artifacts from Terral site (16CA135)

Glass																		
Bottle (Curved)	35	1	2	2	2	1	4	2	2	3	3	2		4	1	2		66
Window (Flat)	1														2			3
Milk	3	1																4
Metal																		
Iron																		
Fasteners																		
Spikes	1																	1
Unknown	1													1				2
TOTAL	90	4	3	5	3	2	4	4	4	3	4	2	1	5	4	2	1	141

Some of the artifacts recovered from this site are depicted in Figures 22-26.



Figure 22 – Salt and manganese glazed stoneware, surface



Figure 23 – Milk glass, 10 S 10 W, in hole



Figure 24 – Olive green glass bottle basal fragment, surface



Figure 25 – Iron railroad spike, surface



Figure 26 – Blue salt glazed stoneware, surface

The materials recovered from this site suggest a late nineteenth to early twentieth century occupation. Of the sixty-four ceramic sherds recovered, 70.31% ($n=45$) were ironstone, 23.44% ($n=15$) were stoneware, 6.25% ($n=4$) were porcelain, and 1.56% ($n=1$) were whiteware.

Curved (vessel) glass accounted for thirty-five shards and flat (window) glass was one shard. One corroded iron railroad spike was recovered. Brick fragments were recorded and discarded in the field.

Ouachita Levee Site (16CA136)

This site, covering 0.9 acres (0.36 hectares), was a prehistoric and historic scatter. The site is bounded by a gravel road to the west and a levee of the Ouachita River to south. The site has been disturbed due to agricultural plowing. Figure 27 depicts the location of the site. Figure 28 details a site map, and Figure 29 shows a view from the site. Table 7 illustrates the soil profile, and Table 8 is a list of the recovered artifacts preceding a brief explanation.



Figure 27 – Detail of aerial photo showing Ouachita Levee site (16CA136) (Google Earth)

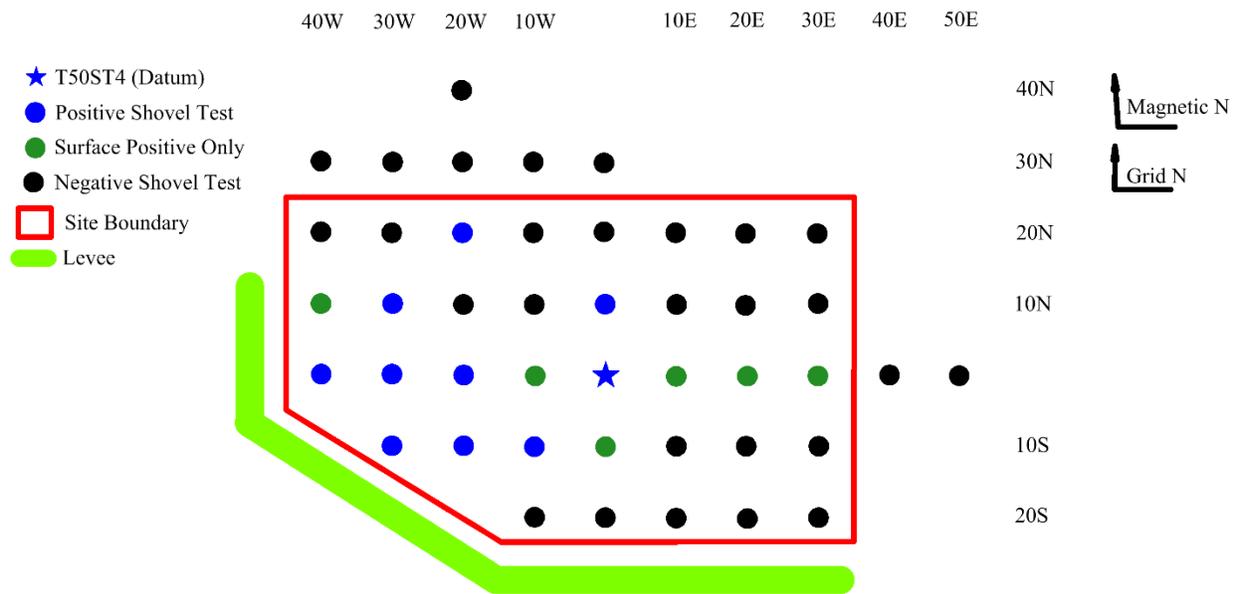


Figure 28 – Site map of Ouachita Levee site (16CA136) showing shovel test locations



Figure 29 – Facing east from datum

Table 7 – Soil profile from Ouachita Levee site (16CA136)

Location	Depth	Munsell	Description	Notes
Datum	0-10 cmbs	10 YR 3/5	Silty clay	
	11-35 cmbs	2.5 YR 3/2	Silty clay	
	36-50 cmbs	10 YR 3/4	Silty clay	

Table 8A – Artifacts from Ouachita Levee site (16CA136)

	LOCATION										TOTAL
	Surface	Datum	20 N, 20 W	10 N, 30 W	10 N	40 W	20 W	10 S, 30 W	10 S, 20 W	10 S, 10 W	
Ceramics											
Prehistoric											
Baytown Plain	1										1
Whiteware											
Plain	13		1	2		2		2			20
Decorated											
Transfer	7		2		1						10
Hand-painted	1										1
Banded						1					1
Stoneware											
Salt and Manganese Glaze	5			1			1				7
Salt Glaze	2										2
Manganese Glaze	2										2
Slip				1							1
Ironstone											
Plain	26	3		2		4			2		37
Pearlware											
Plain	4										4
Decorated											
Transfer	1		1		1	1					4
Shell edge										1	1

Table 8B - Artifacts from Ouachita Levee site (16CA136)

Porcelain											
Plain	9			2							11
Decorated											
Decalcomania	1										1
Glass											
Bottle (Curved)	26	2				5				3	36
Window (Flat)	4							1			5
Milk	1				1						2
Metal											
Iron											
Fasteners											
Nails											
Wire	1			1							2
Unknown								1			1
Spikes	1										1
Nuts	1										1
Unknown	1										1
Lead											
Bullet (Shotshell)					1						1
Bone											
Mammal	1									1	2
TOTAL	108	5	4	9	4	13	1	4	2	5	155

Some of the artifacts recovered from this site are depicted in Figures 30-33.



Figure 30 – Prehistoric Baytown Plain pottery, surface



Figure 31 – Black transfer print whiteware, 20 N 20 W, in hole



Figure 32 – Aqua curved glass, surface



Figure 33 – Green hand-painted whiteware, surface

The historic materials recovered from this site suggest a mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century occupation. Of the 102 ceramic sherds recovered, 36.27% ($n=37$) were ironstone, 31.37% ($n=32$) were whiteware, 11.76% ($n=12$) were stoneware, 11.76% ($n=12$) were porcelain, and 8.82% ($n=9$) were pearlware.

One prehistoric Baytown Plain sherd was recovered, which chronologically spans the Late Woodland period of 400 to 700 C.E. (Gibson 1982; Belmont 1982).

Curved (vessel) glass accounted for twenty-six shards and flat (window) glass was four shards. Two iron wire nails were recovered and one was too corroded to identify. One lead shotshell bullet was found as well as piece of mammal faunal remains.

CHAPTER VIII: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From March 25, 2015, to April 3, 2015, a Phase I cultural resources survey was conducted of 183 acres (3.9 ha) on the left descending bank of the Ouachita River near Riverton, Caldwell Parish, Louisiana. A total of 738 shovel tests were excavated. Three archaeological sites were discovered: Riverton Camp (16CA134), Terral (16CA135), and Ouachita Levee (16CA136).

All three sites are presently used for agricultural purposes and have been heavily disturbed due to subsequent tilling. The majority of artifacts throughout the sites are associated with the surface or are located above the plow zone. No features were encountered during the initial survey or delineations.

As a result of the sites lacking archaeological integrity, they are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. It is recommended that development proceed as planned.

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