In May, ASSC hosted our first knap-in at the Lynches County River Park. The weather was not very cooperative, but overall it was a successful event. We hope to do it again next year. For all the details, check out Michael Miller’s article on page 6.

At the knap-in we had a marathon of a board meeting. It was our longest in awhile, but it was productive. We spent the majority of the meeting addressing our members’ comments from the annual conference in January, which included how we could set up funds for a future ASSC volunteer excavation and also the certification plan. We are also putting in motion creating a better website.

We recently held a board meeting in Columbia on July 18th. We discussed how to improve the website and determine a budget will be necessary for the changes. We also continued our planning for our next event, Fall Field Day. This year the event will be hosted in downtown Columbia on October 24th. Fall Field Day will most likely be held at the Coble Plaza behind the Ed-Venture Children’s Museum. We will send out an email to our members with the details as the date gets closer. Keep up with us on Facebook for the most up to date ASSC happenings and details for our events.

Hope to see everyone at Fall Field Day!
Chapter Updates

Foothills

The Foothills Chapter had 15 members attend the excavation at the Fisher Site in Barnwell, SC held June 1st through June 5th. Lamar Nelson, Angie Nelson, Todd Putman, Lauren Price, and Henry Price worked at the excavation all week, with Ron, Ruth, Margaret, and Rosemary helping part of the week along with other members coming for a visit. It was great having that many members support site owner’s Lorene and Joel Fisher who are our members of our chapter. The evenings were great with everyone sitting around outside, discussing the finds of the day, of which there were many. We all ate together and a lot of thanks to those that prepared the meals. Many of our friends came for the week as well. We all can’t wait until next year to start again. Lamar will take the artifacts to clean and analyze before returning them back to Lorene, with a report. Next up for the chapter, Lamar will do a program for the Spartanburg County Historical Association at Walnut Grove Plantation on archaeology to summer camp students and Bob Hanselman and Lamar will attend the Schiele Museum knap-in on August 1st. Many other projects are planned for the year as our chapter takes July off and we start getting ready for a busy fall.

- Lamar Nelson

Hilton Head

In May, the speaker was Melissa Memory, the Superintendent of the Ft. Pulaski National Monument, who gave us an interesting talk about the history of the fort, which is nearby and very accessible to us. We then had a Chapter field trip to the fort in June, which was enjoyed by a number of our members.

May was our last meeting before our regular summer break. Our meetings will reconvene on September 15th, when we will have as our speaker Rex Garniewicz, the President and CEO of the Coastal Discovery Museum, who is an archaeologist.
ASSC 2014 Officers

President: James Stewart  stewartseneca@gmail.com
Interim Vice President: Sarah Stephens  sastephens6@yahoo.com
Secretary: Rebecca Shepherd  reshepherd@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Michael Miller  michael@flintknappers.com
Journal Editor: Chris Moore  cmoore@srarp.org
Newsletter Editor: Sarah Stephens  sastephens6@yahoo.com
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Board Member At Large: Emily Dale  ekdale@gmail.com
Board Member At Large: Chris Gillam  GILLAMC@mailbox.sc.edu
Board Member At Large: Carl Steen  carl.steen@gmail.com
Board Member At Large: Stacey Young  stacslyyoung@hotmail.com
Past President: Christopher Judge  judgec@mailbox.sc.edu

ASSC Grant-in-Aid

The Grant-in-Aid Program was established to assist graduate students in their thesis or dissertation research. Funds raised during the course of the year are available on a competitive basis to graduate students, both at USC and out-of-state universities, who are working on theses or dissertations that pertain to the archaeology of South Carolina.

You may use the PayPal button on the Society’s website (http://www.assc.net) or send a check or money order to:
ASSC Grant-in-Aid
PO Box 1357
Columbia SC 29202

2015 Features & Profiles Publication Schedule

Send articles, photos, ideas, and suggestions for the next issue of Features and Profiles to the Newsletter Editor, Sarah Stephens at sastephens6@yahoo.com, by:

Issue 1 – January 31  Issue 2 – April 31  Issue 3 – July 31  Issue 4 – October 31

From the Archives

We’ve spotlighted many ASSC items in past F&P articles and on our Facebook page. This image though is of a current work in progress, the creation of the ASSC archive. A finding aid is in place and continues to grow. The organization of nearly fifty years of documents is nearly complete. Next we’ll be moving onto photographs and slides.
Archaeology at Hitchcock Woods

By Carl Steen

Hitchcock Woods is a 2,100 acre nature preserve that is completely within the boundaries of the town of Aiken, making it the largest preserve of its kind in the United States. The land was accumulated by Celestine Eustis, her niece Louise Eustis Hitchcock and her husband Thomas Hitchcock beginning in the 1880s for horseback riding and fox hunting. By 1927 they owned over 5,000 acres south of what was then the town limits.

The Sandhills locale of Aiken was known for its healthy climate and attracted convalescents from the Lowcountry as early as the 1840s. This continued after the Civil War, and because of its location at a major rail hub northerners began to visit to take their tuberculosis cures. Because it is relatively high and dry tuberculosis bacilli become inactive in this environment. In fact, Celestine Eustis first brought Louise to Aiken for her health. The Hitchcocks encouraged their friends and fellow equestrians to come south for the winter to ride and play polo. Soon the “Winter Colony” was formed, and until the 1930s the rich and powerful were visiting yearly. After Louise’s death in the 1930s the family formed the Hitchcock Woods Foundation to manage and preserve the woods she loved.

The Foundation knew of 40 archaeological sites on the property, and in 2015 contracted with the Diachronic Research Foundation and Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas to begin a three year inventory of the cultural resources of Hitchcock Woods. We will be surveying about 700 acres per year. Thirteen sites were known to be in the survey area. During our survey we revisited the known sites and recorded another 35 sites.

In the 1970s two local teenagers started collecting points, bottles and ceramics. They amassed quite a collection. One of the boys is now deceased, and his family turned his historic collections over to the Foundation. Both young men went on the work as archaeological technicians at the Savannah River site during their summer breaks, and one became a full time worker there after graduation. The other went on to become an engineer, largely because of the introduction he got to science from Hitchcock Woods. I knew him through work and several years ago he asked if I knew anyone he could donate his collection to. I didn’t at the time, but as part of our project I asked him to give it to the Foundation. The other collection had been taken to the University of Florida by Ken Sassaman for further analysis. I asked him to return the collection to Aiken for further study and he agreed. The combined collection now includes 1,117 Native American artifacts, 170 bottles, and a variety of other historic artifacts.

Long-time ASSC members may remember J. Walter Joseph’s Annual Conference presentation on the Hitchcock Woods pottery site in 1976. This is an alkaline glazed stoneware pottery production site that is, as it turns out, just across the property line from Hitchcock Woods.
Mr. Joseph had plans to excavate the site, but just before fieldwork began a broken leg forced him to postpone the work. He had heard that someone else had found out about the site and enlisted the local Boy Scout troop to collect everything they could find. They did so with a vengeance, collecting 28 banker's boxes of sherds. Mr. Joseph offered to return the sherds to the foundation. One of the teenage collectors had also been to this site, and collected and painstakingly reconstructed several nearly complete vessels [Figure 3]. The pottery made at the site is very well made, with thin walls and unusual vessel forms like tablewares and coffee pots.

I had visited the site in 1987 and 1993, and remembered it as being badly disturbed, a recollection confirmed upon revisiting the site. It is on the toe of a ridge that is cut off by an old fenceline. One side of the fence was profoundly disturbed, the other side looked better. On the surface kiln brick was visible, and despite the Boy Scout's best efforts, sherds were visible on the adjacent slope. We decided to excavate a 1x2m trench to see if there was anything left of the kiln. After digging through about 60cm of kiln debris a layer of burned, red sand with scattered brick was exposed. A good sign, as the kilns we've excavated in the area all had this same soil. After removing a few more centimeters we encountered four brick that were laid flat and touching. When we excavated around them we found a second layer of flat laid bricks. This is not a formal floor, but rather a temporary floor that could be shifted as necessary to keep vessels out of the sand, and level them [Figure 4].

So the news is good. Instead of having a completely destroyed site, we have one with an intact kiln floor. Vessel parts like jug rims are often useful in identifying a potter's products, so it was good to find that rims from closed contexts matched the materials collected by Walt Joseph and others. Thus we have a good collection of artifacts, and good research potential for the future.

Hitchcock Woods is rich in history. Sites there have produced artifacts from the Paleoindian, Archaic, Woodland and Mississippian Periods. The last leg of what was at the time the longest railroad in the world ran right through Hitchcock Woods when it was built in 1831. Because there was drop of some 375 feet between Aiken and the terminus at Hamburg it was necessary to build an inclined plane railway to lower the cars. The people living in Hitchcock Woods at the time were mostly poor whites, but included a few slave owners and slaves. Several of their home sites have been found. Turpentine was produced and kaolin was mined. In the 1890s a firebrick factory was established. After the Eustis and Hitchcock purchases residents dwindled in number and tended to be Foundation workers, but at least one man, Willie Barton, maintained his family's farm until his death in the 1940s. A Winter Colony resident built an elaborate mansion that was later demolished, but its foundations are still visible. So there is much interesting research to be done over the next few years.
Event Review: 1st Annual Archaeological Society of South Carolina Knap-in

Michael J. Miller

In May of 2015, The Archaeological Society of South Carolina sponsored the first knap-in ever held in the Palmetto State. The gathering of flintknappers took place near the small town of Coward located south of Florence. The Lynches River County Park, a growing scientific and nature hub for the Pee Dee, provided the venue and ample space for the event. Experts in flintknapping, traditional bow making, arrow making, primitive flutes, ceramics and atlatl and dart use were in attendance and demonstrated their skills. No fee was charged for admission and all proceeds from the small vendor fee went to the ASSC.

Flintknappers from South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina attended the event and shared their knowledge, tools, and stone with the eager and interested visitors. Many brought their wares for show and sale while others attended with only their tools and flintknapping in mind. An atlatl and dart range provided the public with a chance to try their hand at spear throwing; numerous darts hit the mark, and we successfully expanded many children’s minds beyond the bow and arrow. A variety of objects were brought to the artifact identification table; most notable was a groundstone cone made from slate that was surface collected in the Columbia area. Thank you to member and South Carolina Antiquities Editor, Dr. Chris Moore, who spoke at the knap-in on Early Hunter-Gatherer Tool Use and Animal Exploitation in the Central Savannah River Area.

I had the pleasure of demonstrating and explaining flintknapping to visitors who braved Tropical Storm Ana and came to the event specifically to learn about the manufacture of stone tools. Children were fascinated at how the stone broke and many found the colors and sharp edges to be “very cool”. I also spoke to Amanda Kinseth, co-host of Carolina & Company Live, on WPDE NewsChannel 15 about the event and the process of flintknapping. The weather kept her from getting video of all the activities, but she did get some good tape of flintknapping.

The Society table was faithfully staffed by our Interim VP Sarah Stephens and President James Stewart. They handed out several membership forms, sold some of our merchandise and connected with our membership, one of which was a founding member of the Society. We held our board meeting on Saturday afternoon and covered numerous topics, old and new, making headway on several projects.

I want to thank my co-host, Sarah Stephens, for all of her effort and time spent on tasks ranging from administrative to logistical. Also, I’d like to thank the ASSC for sponsoring the event and providing the foundation needed to grow the knap-in next year!
Catawba Archaeology of the Late 18th Century
University of North Carolina
Ph.D. candidate David Cranford

The late 18th century was a turbulent and formative period for the Catawba Nation. Epidemics, conflict, and an influx of new neighbors forced the Catawba to dramatically change the way they lived and organized their communities. Recent archaeological investigations at several sites in York and Lancaster Counties have provided new insights into how this community adjusted to new social, economic, and political realities of the late 18th century.

All are invited to attend these free monthly lectures which usually cover topics related to local and regional culture and history.

12 noon to 1:00 pm

Participants are invited to bring a bag lunch.

Location:
Native American Studies Center
119 South Main Street, Lancaster, SC

Please direct any questions or comments regarding the series to Brent Burgin at 803-313-7063 or wbburgin@sc.edu. Mr. Burgin welcomes suggestions and ideas for future talks and speakers.
The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) Heritage Trust Program announces the launch of the Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve documentary film series —[http://www.dnr.sc.gov/mlands/heritage/videos.html](http://www.dnr.sc.gov/mlands/heritage/videos.html).

Archaeological excavations, tabby restoration, and public tours took place at Fort Frederick Heritage Preserve in Beaufort County, SC during the winter of 2014-2015. This cultural resources work was documented through a series of short films, which are available on the films web page and in HD versions through the filmmaker’s website and Vimeo. Funding was provided by the SCDNR Heritage Trust Program, and grants received from the Harry Hampton Memorial Wildlife Fund and The Humanities Council SC. A cultural resources vocabulary list and four lesson plans supplement the film series, and a survey is provided to gain feedback from viewers.

Please share this resource with others, as we would like to see the series and supplemental resources utilized by other government agencies, educators, NPOs, and anyone interested in cultural resources education. If you watch the films, please take a moment to complete a survey found on the film web page, or through the following link: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FFHPFilmSeries2015](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FFHPFilmSeries2015).

A film screening of the series will be shown on Friday, July 24 at 10am to coincide with the international Day of Archaeology. The screening will take place in the Rembert C. Dennis Building first floor auditorium (1000 Assembly Street, Columbia, SC). Archaeologists who worked on this project with SCDNR from the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) and the South Carolina Archaeology Public Outreach Division (SCAPOD) will be present to answer questions and show artifacts excavated from the preserve.
Archaeological Society of South Carolina

Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT: ___ New Membership   ___ Renew Membership*

Name: ________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________ E-mail: _____________________________

Membership Level Desired:

___ Senior: $10
___ Senior Family: $15
___ Student: $15
___ Lifetime: $30

___ Individual: $20
___ Family: $25
___ Institutional: $30

Please make checks to Archaeological Society of South Carolina.

Mail to: Michael Miller, Society Treasurer
         P.O. Box 1357
         Columbia, SC 29202

* Membership renewal is also available online at www.assc.net through PayPal.

About the Society

The Society is assisted and supported by the Office of State Archaeology, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, and also works closely with the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists. The Society is chartered and operates under State Law as a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

Membership Information

ASSC members receive an annual copy of the journal, South Carolina Antiquities, the quarterly newsletter Features & Profiles, along with free entry to events such as our annual archaeological conference.

For more information, please contact ASSC at: archaeologysocietysc@gmail.com

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Fall Field Day
October 24, 2015

Features and Profiles
Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Inc.
c/o Sarah Stephens
549 Center Street
West Columbia, SC 29169