



SEAC

NEWSLETTER

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CURRENT RESEARCH

Florida

Dade County Historic Preservation Division

A three year survey and inventory of Metropolitan Dade County has just been completed. A large number of prehistoric and historic archaeological sites have been recorded and assessed.

In addition, salvage excavations have been conducted on several sites. These included two prehistoric cemeteries dating from as early as ca. 1500 B.C., and an Indian village on the south side of the Miami River. Also excavated were two early to mid-nineteenth century historic sites; one being a "coonti" mill run located on Arch Creek and the other being a "conch" pioneer homesite along Biscayne Bay.

Within the past year a county historic preservation ordinance has been passed that is designed to protect archaeological sites. Copies of this ordinance are available from the division.

Reports on these various projects will be issued throughout 1981 - 1982. A book on the survey findings and the archaeology of Dade County will be completed in 1982. Individuals and institutions interested in being placed on our publications mailing list should write to:

Bob Carr
Dade County
Office of Community and Economic
Development
Historic Preservation Division
90 SW 8th ST. - 3rd floor
Miami, FL 33130

Illinois

University of Illinois — Urbana

In the spring of 1981 we began an archaeological study of the St. Louis Bay region on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in Hancock and Harrison counties. The objective of this continuing study is to describe and interpret the changing patterns of human adaptation to an estuarine environment from the time of the earliest prehistoric settlements to the beginning of the 20th century. The principal investigator of this project is Barry Lewis. Funding for the 1981 season was provided by the Research Board, University of Illinois.

The initial research stage, completed this past spring and summer, consisted of the following tasks: (1) a mail site survey and field followup in Zone 1 (Figure 1), an extinct beach ridge which lies to either side of the mouth of St. Louis Bay and which has been the focus of Euro-American settlement over the past three centuries; (2) a shoreline survey of Zone 2, a low-lying pine savanna which has recently come under development for vacation home lots; and (3) a reconstruction of the early historic forest communities of the study area using General Land Office survey records from

the 1820s. Reports describing the first season's research results are now in preparation and will be available next spring.

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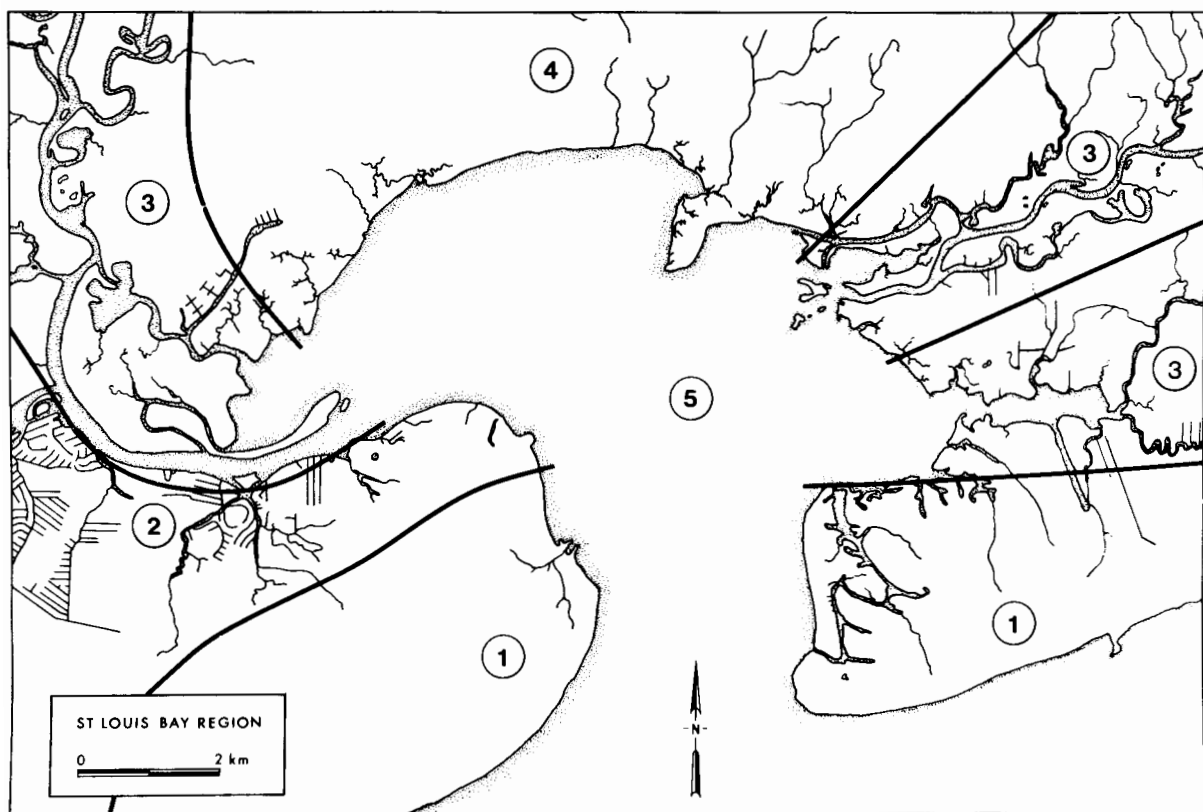


Figure 1. Sampling strata of the St. Louis Bay study area. (1 - beach ridge, 2 - prairie flats, 3 - river mouths, 4 - back bay, 5 - bay bottom).

Kentucky

Kentucky Heritage Commission

The Kentucky Heritage Commission (now Heritage Division of the Department of the Arts) continues its efforts in the management of the Commonwealth's archaeological resources. Current activities include two county surveys (McLean and Webster), an archaeological resource protection planning conference, the planning of a second conference, and evaluating a threatened Fort Ancient village.

Recent survey efforts have focused in the Western Coal Field region of Kentucky. Archaeological sites in this region are being rapidly destroyed by massive strip mining activities, oil exploration, and agricultural practices, such as land leveling. Charles D. Hockensmith, aided part-time by Thomas N. Sanders, spent several weeks surveying in McLean County during

the fall of 1980. Additional McLean County survey was performed by Hockensmith for two weeks in the early spring of 1981. These efforts resulted in the documentation of 72 new sites and the redocumentation of 14 sites recorded prior to 1940 (primarily shell mounds). New components identified include Paleo Indian, Archaic, Woodland, Mississippian, and Historic. Of special interest were two previously unknown shell mounds. Charles Hockensmith is currently analyzing the cultural remains from McLean County and hopes to publish a report on the county sometime during 1982.

Periodically, during the spring and summer of 1981, Charles Hockensmith surveyed in Webster County. Fifty-seven new sites were documented, ranging from Paleo Indian to Historic house middens. Additionally, sites were documented in Butler, Caldwell, Crittenden, Hopkins, and Ohio counties.

The Heritage Commission recently sponsored an Archaeological Resource Protection Planning Conference at Shakertown, Pleasant Hill, Kentucky. Funding was provided by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Archaeological and Historic Preservation. The conference focused on the Green River Archaeological Management Area of Kentucky, which contains 30% of the state's area. Thirty-one people participated in the discussion of survey, research, and site preservation priorities in the Green River Management Area. A preliminary report of the conference is being prepared. The final report is due in November.

A second Archaeological Resource Protection Planning Conference is planned for September or October, 1981. This conference will focus on the Jackson Purchase Management Area and will be hosted by Kenneth Carstens, Murray State University.

Construction activities during March, 1981, at a new sewerage treatment plant at Augusta (Bracken County), Kentucky, exposed portions of a major Fort Ancient site (15BK200). Buried by approximately 50 cm of silt, the village midden is extensive and contains an abundance of cultural remains (especially ceramics) and faunal materials. Charles Hockensmith is preparing a report on the cultural, faunal, and human remains collected by the Kentucky Heritage Commission staff and R. Berle Clay (Office of State Archaeology).

A data recovery program is now being formulated for areas of 15BK200 affected by construction. This program should minimize any further loss of data and result in an important professional report.

Charles D. Hockensmith
Kentucky Heritage Commission
Division
104 Bridge Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Louisiana

Coastal Environments, Inc.

Coastal Environments, Inc. is involved in several archaeological projects at present. Richard Weinstein is directing data recovery at the Middle to Late Archaic Moore's Creek site in Alcorn County, Mississippi. Excavations were completed in the fall of 1980 and analysis and report preparation are in progress. George Castille has been involved in excavation and analysis

of materials from a site in downtown New Orleans. This project is attempting to examine and compare the structure and content of an early to mid-nineteenth century upper class residence with that of a contemporary free black residence. Abundant historical documentation has been gathered for both occupations. Excavations, which were completed in the fall of 1980, produced tremendous quantities of glass, ceramics, faunal remains, etc., and exposed house and quarters foundations, wells, a privy, and a subterranean cellar. Analysis and report preparation for this project are in progress. Both the Mississippi and New Orleans projects are being undertaken under contract with IAS.

Charles Pearson is directing a study of the 1766 wreck of the Spanish merchant ship El Constante. Initial work on the wreck site, located in 5.7 m of water off the central Louisiana Coast, has involved the mapping and excavation of an intact section of the lower ship's hull which is 77.8 m long and 7.8 m wide. Quantities of ship fittings and implements, as well as cargo items such as cochineal, log wood, leather hides, turtle shell, ceramics, and precious metals (copper, gold, and silver), have been recovered and are being analyzed. Dr. Paul Hoffman (Louisiana State University) is serving as historian for the project and has accumulated a significant amount of information on the El Constante from the archives of the Indies in Seville. This work is being conducted under contract with the State of Louisiana, Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism.

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Tennessee

Memphis State University

Anthropological Research Center

In February 1980, the Memphis State University Anthropological Research Center conducted cultural resource evaluations for the National Park Service in the Rock Creek Archaeological District (Colbert County, Alabama). Two sites, 1CT44 and 1CT45, were nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as the Rock Creek Archaeological District because of the extensive Middle Archaic (Benton) through Late Woodland materials. They had been located along the Natchez Trace Right-of-Way by previous investigations.

An intuitive testing program designed by Drexel A. Peterson, Jr. (Phase I principal investigator) and implemented in the field by William McKinney (Field Director), consisted of a series of one meter squares placed parallel and perpendicular to the proposed centerline. These were excavated to determine the nature and extent of the archaeological resources at these two sites.

The test results indicated that no significant subsurface archaeological deposits exist at 1CT44, while the 1CT45 tests exposed up to 90 cm of relatively undisturbed cultural deposits approximately 45 m south of the centerline. In compliance with federal directives, a plan was designed to gather information relevant to the prehistoric occupation of these sites before they were destroyed by Natchez Trace construction activities.

In this plan we recommended shifting the centerline north of its original

position and relocating the construction zone. Additional hand excavation was carried out before the construction zone of both sites was mechanically stripped. A proposed access road across Site 1CT44 was stripped and then the recorded features were excavated by hand.

The hand excavations and shift of the centerline through 1CT45 20 m north of the original location was shown to be effective when stripping in this area encountered no significant archaeological resources. Thus, the midden will remain in preservation under National Park Service management some 65 m south of the revised centerline.

Avoiding the destruction of archaeological resources was not as simple at 1CT44 as it had been at 1CT45. The inadequacies of one meter squares and their intuitive placement in predicting subsurface features was evident after stripping the centerline and access road at Site 1CT45. Removing the plowzone from the centerline and access road at 1CT44 exposed two middens and an extensive cluster of features that the testing program failed to predict. One of the middens and the clustered features were in the Natchez Trace construction area, while the other midden lay in the path of the access road. The access road was relocated because of the complexity of the latter midden.

The centerline midden was tested extensively and was determined to be a Middle Archaic (Benton) component. The cluster of features was ascertained to be a Late Mississippi hamlet containing over 400 features, three locations, and nine human burials.

Laboratory processing and analysis of the data collected from both phases of archaeological recovery are currently underway. Gerald P. Smith (Phase II Principal Investigator) and William McKinney are supervising the research. The research topics include site formation processes, changes in lithic technology, lithic source analysis, subsistence patterns, and differential site utilization. The final report is scheduled for submission to the National Park Service in May 1982.

Final analysis is underway by Charles H. McNutt and Guy G. Weaver on materials recovered from two borrow areas associated with the construction by TVA of the Hartsville Nuclear Plant in north-central Tennessee. Located along the Middle Cumberland River in Trousdale County, the sites have yielded information on Early Archaic through Middle Woodland periods. Intensive excavations at the Duncan Tract site (40TR27), conducted between August 1980 and March 1981, resulted in the recovery of over 500 subsurface features, including 63 human burials, three human cremations, three dog burials, and several structures. Dating primarily from the Terminal Archaic/Early Woodland through Middle Woodland periods, information from 40TR27 will help fill the information gap between the Duck and Elk river drainages to the south and the Green and Ohio drainages to the north.

The Memphis State University Anthropological Research Center has expanded its facilities on campus to include a new osteology laboratory and a new general archaeological laboratory. David H. Dye joined the faculty in August 1981.

William H. McKinney
Guy G. Weaver
Anthropological Research Center
Memphis State University
Memphis, TN 38152

West Virginia

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Huntington District

Bulltown

The University of Akron, under contract to the Huntington District Corps of Engineers, began test excavations at Bulltown, the site of a Civil War fort and camp located in the Burnsville Reservoir Project in central West Virginia. The entire complex of Union trenches was mapped and several representative trenches were cross-sectioned. The shallow Confederate rifle pits, which were occupied on October 13, 1863, during the twelve-hour battle of Bulltown, were also mapped and one was cross-sectioned. Portions of two structures were uncovered within the circle of Union trenches and other structures were identified by concentrations of square nails. Several types of bullets, buttons, glass, pottery, fragments of military hardware, and animal bones were recovered. Interviews with local informants who had lived or worked in the Bulltown area were used to interpret certain features of the site. The site will be placed on the National Register and will be preserved as a portion of the Bulltown Historic Complex.

The Childers Site

The University of Akron is completing the analysis of the Childers site, a terminal Late Woodland village located near the Gallipolis Locks and Dam in Mason County, West Virginia. The site was recorded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during the initial reconnaissance for the Gallipolis Locks and Dam Replacement Project. It was tested in 1979 by the Marshall University Archeological Field School and extensively tested in 1980 by John P. Marwitt of the University of Akron. A preliminary report on the 1979 excavation was published by R.F. Maslowski and D.L. Dawson in the West Virginia Archeologist, Number 30, 1988. Limestone, siltstone, and grit-tempered pottery were found in association with Lowe, Chesser Notched, and triangular projectile points. The site consists of a small densely occupied village without the circular pattern characteristic of Fort Ancient Villages. Radiocarbon dates include:

Feature 2	Uga - 2637	A.D. 1065 + 90
Burial 1 (bone)	Dic - 1496	A.D. 1200 + 55
Feature 7	Dic - 1498	A.D. 1160 + 60
Feature 22	Dic - 1881	A.D. 1060 + 60
Feature 28	Dic - 1882	A.D. 740 + 60

The site will be extensively excavated once construction of the Gallipolis Replacement Project begins. Analysis of the 1980 material is expected to produce information on Woodland settlement and subsistence patterns and the transition to Fort Ancient villages in the Middle Ohio Valley.

Robert F. Maslowski
Archeologist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Huntington District
P.O. Box 2127
Huntington, WV 25721

Rejoinder

Rebuttal to Woodall

In a rebuttal to an article by Mike Trinkley, Ned Woodall implied that data from the site files of the Research Laboratories of Anthropology at UNC-Chapel Hill were somehow "hoarded" and kept from other researchers (SEAC Newsletter 23:7). In fact, all the Research Laboratory site information has been turned over to the Archaeology Branch, Division of Archives and History in Raleigh and is incorporated in their computerized data bank. This information is available to anyone doing research in North Carolina.

Woodall also stated that a "considerable portion" of the UNC files were "created using federal funds." This is simply not true. The UNC site files are primarily the result of the efforts of interested amateurs, who were not sponsored by anyone and, over the past 40 years, have shared their site information with us. The site files are also the result of work by Research Laboratory staff and students who continue to search for sites whenever they can, because of a deep interest in North Carolina prehistory and often on their own time. We have never needed sewer line survey contracts to be inspired to do fieldwork.

Woodall's assessment of the Research Laboratories of Anthropology's site files perhaps would have been more accurate if at some point during the past 10 years, he had bothered to make the hour and a half drive from Winston-Salem to Chapel Hill.

H. Trawick Ward
Research Laboratories of
Anthropology
Alumni Building 004 A
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

NOTES

38th Annual Meeting

Southeastern Archaeological Conference

The 38th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference will be held on November 12-14 at the Smoky Mountain Inn on the Plaza in Asheville, NC. Jefferson Chapman (University of Tennessee - Knoxville) is chairing the program and Trawick Ward (University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill) is the meeting coordinator.

University of Kentucky

The University of Kentucky's Program in Cultural Resources Assessment has begun issuing the Kentucky Archaeological Newsletter, which is concerned with current archaeological research, news, and events in and around Kentucky. The newsletter is distributed free of charge and is directed principally toward professional archaeologists who work in or near

Kentucky. To be included on the mailing list, contact Boyce Driskell or Nancy O'Malley, Program in Cultural Resource Assessment, Department of Anthropology, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506.

West Virginia Archeologist

The West Virginia Archeologist has expanded its format to include two publications and six newsletters per year. Jeffrey R. Graybill (P.O. Box 879, Morgantown, WV 26505) is the editor and Thomas C. Kuhn (2124 Eleventh AV., Huntington, WV 25703) is secretary-treasurer and editor of the newsletter. Correspondence concerning membership (\$7.00 per year), back issues, and information for the newsletter should be addressed to Thomas C. Kuhn.

Request for Information

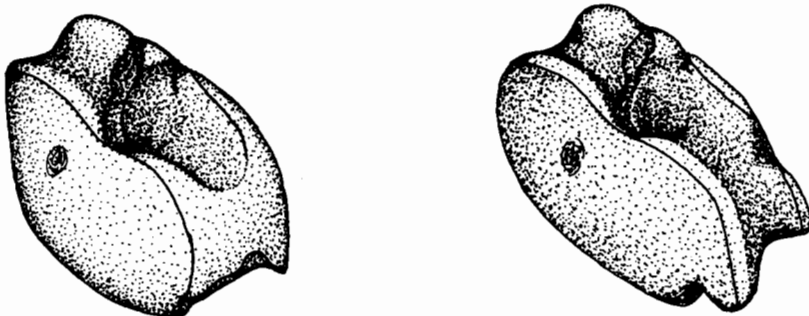
I am currently working on a study of prehistoric bone dice made from astragali, a bone of the foot. These artifacts are relatively easy to recognize. To make them, an astragalus was usually ground down to nearly flat surfaces on from two to all six sides (see Figure 1). Most of the astragali used to make dice in the prehistoric Eastern United States were from deer; one occasionally finds them made from elk or bison bones.

The topics covered in this study are: (1) the spatial distribution of astragali dice in the Eastern U.S., and (2) the archaeological contexts in which they have been found. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who has found examples of these artifacts. In each case I need to know the specimen's dimensions and its archaeological context when found.

My address is:

Dr. Barry Lewis
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607 S. Mathews St.
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

NOTE: The astragali dice depicted below are slightly larger than life-sized.



Recent Publications

Arkansas Archeological Survey

Morse, Phyllis A.

1981 Parkin: the 1978-1979 archeological investigation of a Cross County, Arkansas site. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Research Series 13. \$6.00.

Rolinson, Martha A. and Frank F. Schambach

1981 The Shallow Lake site (3UN9/52) and its place in regional pre-history. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Research Series 12. \$10.00.

Santeford, Lawrence G. and William A. Martin

1980 The Conway water supply: results of archeological survey and testing and a historical survey of a proposed reservoir area in Conway County, Arkansas. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Research Report 20. \$3.00.

Stewart-Abernathy, Leslie C.

1980 The seat of justice, 1825-1830: an archeological reconnaissance of Davidsonville, 1979. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Research Report 21. \$5.50.

Trubowitz, Neal L.

1980 Pine Mountain revisited: an archeological study in the Arkansas Ozarks. Arkansas Archeological Survey, Research Report 23. \$3.00.

Arkansas Archeological Survey
Publications
Box 1249
Fayetteville, AR 72701

University of Arizona Press

Gaines, Sylvia W.

1981 Data bank applications in archaeology. The University of Arizona Press, Tucson. \$12.50.

University of Arizona Press
Tucson, AZ 85722

The Fur Press

Hamilton, T.M.

1980 Colonial frontier guns. The Fur Press, Chadron. \$12.00.
(add \$1.00 for postage and insurance).

The Fur Press
P.O. Box 624
Chadron, NE 69337

University of Georgia

Goad, Sharon I.

- 1979 Chert resources in Georgia: archaeological and geological perspectives. University of Georgia, Laboratory of Archaeology Series, Report 21. \$3.00.

Hally, David J.

- 1979 Archaeological investigations of the Little Egypt site (9M102) Murray County, GA., 1969 season. University of Georgia, Laboratory of Archaeology Series, Report 18. \$6.00.

Shirk, Elizabeth Crabill

- 1979 Intra-site phosphate analysis: a test case at Cold Springs. University of Georgia, Laboratory of Archaeology Series, Report 20. \$3.00.

Publications Secretary
Department of Anthropology
University of Georgia
Baldwin Hall
Athens, GA 30602

Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society

Grimm, R.E.

- 1950 Cahokia brought to life. Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society. Reprint, Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society, St. Louis, 1981. \$3.50.

Greater St. Louis Archaeological Society
11408 Manchester Rd.
Kirkwood, MO 63122

H.C. Brehm

Brehm, H.C. (editor)

- 1980 General Gates P. Thruston: archaeologist. Privately printed. \$2.75.

H.C. Brehm
5311 Indiana AV.
Nashville, TN 37209

Mercer Press Services

Fairbanks, Charles H.

- 1956 Archaeology of the Funeral Mound, Ocmulgee National Monument, Georgia. National Park Service, Archaeological Research Series 3. Reprint, Mercer Press, Macon, 1981. \$11.50. (add \$1.50 postage and handling).

Mercer Press Services
Mercer University
Macon, GA 31007

Information For Contributors

The SEAC Newsletter is published quarterly (January, April, July, and October) by the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. Original short articles, book reviews, announcements, notes, current research and comments on the archaeology of the southeastern United States should be submitted to the editor.

All manuscript material must be typed double-spaced on one side of an 8 1/2 by 11 inch white bond sheet leaving at least a 1 inch margin on all sides. Contributors are referred to *American Antiquity* and the *Chicago Manual of Style* for matters of style and reference. Footnotes are not permitted. Text citations are set in parentheses, e.g., [author 1975: 100]. References are listed alphabetically by author and chronologically by year. Style must follow format of this *Newsletter*. Tables should be typed on separate sheets with proper titles and numbered consecutively. A note should be made in the manuscript margin indicating where tables should appear. All illustrations must be submitted as black on white drawings or glossy prints and must not exceed 9 x 12 inches in size. All illustrations are numbered consecutively in a series and are labeled "Figure"; whereas all tabular material is numbered in a separate series labeled "Table." Each article must be accompanied by a short abstract.

DEADLINE: 1st OF MONTH PRECEDING MONTH OF PUBLICATION.

Current Research - Write in narrative from a summary of your field work or any other project or research which you might normally report upon at a Current Research session. Photographs and line drawings will be accepted. Make your report a concise summary, following the format below (if at all possible). Please include the nature of the project [field school, grant sponsored research, etc.], dates of work, sponsoring institution, person in charge, current status of work, results.

Type of Research

[Federal, State Agency, University, Private, Other] Agency [if federal] or

State—Agency, or
State—University, or
State—Private Agency, or
individual, or other

Fieldwork

Laboratory

Publications

New Personnel

Other categories [i.e., other research] Categories not applicable may be omitted from body of text. These headings are only for purpose of organization.

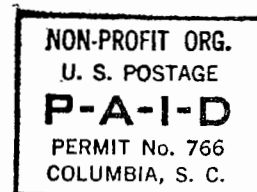
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