



Savannah River Archaeological Research Program

May 2003



Safety and Security

The SRARP's May safety topic covered outdoor safety. The presentation covered issues relating to insects, snakes, plants (poison oak and ivy), severe weather, and heat stress. The meeting was enhanced with a short video on outdoor safety and concluded with a discussion of the upcoming summer field season.

Personnel from the SRARP participated in a safe driving course for large vans at USC-Aiken. The course is in preparation for this years *Digging for Data* archaeology camp in June.

Community, State, and Regulator Relationships

Per regulatory agreements, the SRARP continued conducting preliminary reviews and archaeological surveys for proposed ground-disturbing activities on the SRS. During the month of May, the SRARP continued or completed archaeological surveys for the following projects:

- Site Cold War Programmatic Agreement: To facilitate D&D activities associated with the Accelerated Clean-up, DOE-SR, WSRC, SRARP, and New South Associates have initiated an effort to streamline the process for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Cold War era resources. As co-chair of the working group, Adam King, from the SRARP, has participated in numerous working group meetings, consultations with the State Historic Preservation Officer, drafting of a Programmatic Agreement, and reviewing relevant D&D initiatives currently underway.
- Use Review: SRARP staff reviewed 7 new Site Use Applications in March for potential ground-disturbing activities that might impact archaeological resources.
- Site Use Application Logs No. 1701, 1703, and 1704: Environmental Management Accelerated Environmental Clean-up activities were expedited through the system, with only 1703 necessitating a visual inspection rather than archaeological survey and testing before clearance.
- Timber Compartment 3: SRARP staff completed field survey for USFS-SR harvesting and management activities. These timber activities did not impact any previously recorded archaeological sites, and shovel testing and pedestrian survey in a 31-acre stand and along the edge of a small Carolina bay identified no new archaeological sites.

- Timber Compartment 38: SRARP staff initiated survey for USFS-SR timber harvesting and management activities, surveying 117 acres in three Forest Stands, as well as a 31-acre Carolina bay. Shovel testing and pedestrian survey have identified previously unrecorded archaeological materials in these areas. We are currently documenting these materials so that they may be recorded as sites with the state office.

Per regulatory agreements, SRARP staff continued to disseminate information to the general public and to the historic preservation community.

- In May, the SRARP participated in Earth and Sky Night at the Ruth Patrick Center at USC-Aiken. Middle and Elementary school students participated in the *cookie excavation program*, while their parents enjoyed a display dealing with archaeology on the Savannah River Site.
- The Beech Island Heritage Day Festival was held on May 31. “Our Native American Heritage” was the theme for this year’s event. The SRARP presented a display on Native American History on the Savannah River Site. The display included fact sheets, posters, artifacts, as well as some of the publications from the SRARP.
- The Digging for Data Summer Camp will be held in June. Rising sixth, seventh, and eighth graders will have the opportunity to try working on a real archaeological site this year. The camp will take place at the Galphin Site at Silver Bluff near Jackson, SC and will include additional activities such as mapping and site survey.

Corporate Perspective

The SRARP participated in a Teachers Workshop conducted by the Savannah River Ecology Lab - Outreach at the SREL conference center. During the three-day program, teachers were given an hour-long lecture on CSRA archaeology and ways to incorporate archaeological programs in their classrooms



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