



Savannah River Archaeological Research Program



January 2004

Safety and Security

Our January staff meeting stressed the potential health hazards of exposure to cold weather. Topics focused on recognizing the hazards of frostbite and hypothermia, and ways of protecting oneself from these hazards, such as dressing for conditions and regular breaks in warm areas. Although not commonplace in the Southeast, the recent inclement weather only goes to show how the weather can be unpredictable.

Site Compliance

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

- Site Use Review: SRARP staff reviewed nine new Site Use Applications in January for potential ground-disturbing activities that might impact archaeological resources.
- Timber Compartment 35 (Zone 1 survey): SRARP staff completed survey of two additional timber stands. This resulted in the identification of two previously unrecorded prehistoric archaeological sites. The survey covered 79 acres in Timber Compartment 35.
- GPS field testing: In an effort to streamline our Geographic Information collecting and recording, SRARP staff field tested a hand-held GPS unit for its potential to replace the backpack Trimble system currently in use. A total of 127, over 62 acres, STPs were recorded using both systems to compare accuracy.
- Cold War Era Resources: The SRS Cold War Core Team (individuals from DOE-SR, WRSC, SRARP, and New South Associates) continued its work on creating compliance and management documents to assist in meeting DOE-SR's historic preservation obligations to Cold War Era resources. Both a Programmatic Agreement and a Cultural Resources Management Plan are under development, and each will help to streamline DOE-SR's historic preservation compliance process. During the months of December 2003 and January 2004, meetings were held with representatives from the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Citizens Advisory Board, and the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness. It is anticipated that both documents will be completed and put into effect by later this spring.

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

- In January we continued working with the Ruth Patrick Center at USC-Aiken with our *You Be the Archaeologist* program. The program was presented to students from Blueridge Elementary in Georgia, as well as two local Home School groups from the CSRA.
 - We also presented a program to students of a different sort in January. Members of the academy for Life Long Learning at USC-Aiken spent the last three Wednesday's in January hearing a series of presentations on archaeology in the CSRA. This was also beneficial for the SRARP as a number of the participants were interested in participating with our programs at the Silver Bluff Audubon Society.
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SRARP Mission

The Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) is a division of the University of South Carolina's South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. We are DOE-SR's on-site cultural resources management program established through a cooperative agreement with the University of South Carolina. The primary mission of the SRARP is to assist DOE-SR in complying with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), DOE policy (DOE P 141.1 Department of Energy Management of Cultural Resources), and other laws, regulations, and executive orders that pertain to cultural resources management.

The SRS Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP), established per the NHPA and DOE P 141.1, requires DOE-SR to identify, assess the significance of, and manage all cultural resources on the SRS. A major part of that compliance process involves locating archaeological sites within areas to be impacted by ground-disturbing projects. Sites that contain important information must be avoided or excavated. Through excavation, important information that would otherwise be lost is saved for current and future generations. The SRARP is the organization tasked with implementing the CRMP and conducting all archaeological surveys on the SRS.



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