



More Info

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Judaculla Rock



Hauser Fishweir



Bethabara



Hardaway



Union Square



Town Creek Indian Mound



Edén House



Hatteras Shipwreck Inventory



Fort Fisher

4,000 years ago

9,500 years ago

12,000 years ago

21,000 years ago

**OCTOBER 2018  
ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH**

# DYNAMIC LANDSCAPES & CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS

## 14,000 Years of Human History in North Carolina

North Carolinians have been adapting their surroundings for more than 14,000 years, responding to shifting coastlines, changing temperatures, and the introduction of new species.

Archaeological sites, including earthen mounds, structural patterns, and shell middens, illustrate these changes. Join us as we celebrate Archaeology Month with a series of events exploring the past, present, and future of North Carolina's dynamic landscapes!

### EVENTS

#### October 4 - Lunchtime Lecture Series

"Reach for the Channel: History and Archaeology of Channel Improvements on the Cape Fear River" with Jim McKee, Brunswick Town State Historic Site. *11:30am-12:30pm*  
1st Floor Auditorium, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh

#### October 12 - Student Symposium

Students present their archaeological research from around the state. Refreshments provided. *9:00am-4:00pm*  
1st Floor Auditorium, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh

#### October 12 - Evening Lecture

"Early Human Life on the Southeastern Coastal Plain" with Dr. Christopher Moore, Savannah River Archaeological Research Program. *7:00pm-8:30pm*  
NC Museum of History, 5 E. Edenton Street, Raleigh

#### October 17 - Lunchtime Lecture Series

"Hidden Beneath the Waves: Exploring the Underwater Cultural Heritage of NC" with Chris Southerly (Underwater Archaeology Branch) and Tane Casserley (NOAA). *11:30am-12:30pm*  
1st Floor Auditorium, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh

#### October 23 - Lunchtime Lecture Series

"New Insights into Moravian Pottery Production in Old Salem: The View from Lot 38, 1784-1831" with Geoffrey Hughes, UNC-Chapel Hill Department of Anthropology. *11:30am-12:30pm*  
1st Floor Auditorium, 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh

#### October 27 - Public Archaeology Day

Join us for a day of fun and engaging archaeology for all ages! Talk with the experts! *10:00am-2:00pm*  
Bicentennial Plaza, 1 E. Edenton Street, Raleigh



**NORTH CAROLINA  
OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY**  
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# MOUNTAINS

## Judaculla Rock

*Cullowhee, Jackson County*

Judaculla Rock is a densely incised and pecked petroglyph soapstone boulder dating back at least 5,000 years. Cherokee accounts associate the petroglyph with the powerful spirit being Tsul'kalu (Judaculla), the slant-eyed Master of Game. Judaculla Rock marked the boundary of his domain, and to cross the line without appropriate rituals spelled disaster for errant hunters. The petroglyph motifs postdate the Late Archaic quarrying activities at the site, evidenced by the scars of soapstone bowl extractions. Judaculla Rock is owned and maintained by Jackson County Parks and Recreation and is open to the public.

## Hauser Fish Weir

*Donnaha, Yadkin County*

Fish weirs are structures built across rivers or tidal waterways to channel fish to a specific area to be caught. Made from locally available wooden stakes, branches, and stones, many weirs are “V”- or “W”-shaped and aligned with the current of the water. The Hauser Fish Weir is located south of Donnaha on the Yadkin River. Built of large rocks in a V-shape, the weir measures about 250 feet long and 170 feet wide. It is located near several American Indian archaeological sites dating as early as 1,500 years ago, and was likely built by the earliest of these communities. A portion of the weir was reinforced with a wooden crib by commercial fishermen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Hardaway

*Badin, Stanly County*

Located in the North Carolina “slate belt,” the Hardaway site near Badin was successively occupied for about 12,000 years. Systematic excavations at Hardaway by UNC-Chapel Hill since the 1950s have yielded information about late Paleoindian Hardaway culture, Archaic period Kirk and Palmer cultures, and contact period Caraway American Indian culture. Reliable dating information is based on thousands of recovered artifacts from the site’s remarkably intact five stratigraphic layers. The Hardaway site represents unique cultural periods and is an important aspect of past Southeastern US lifeways. Its significance has earned it recognition as a National Historic Landmark.

# PIEDMONT

## Historic Bethabara

*Winston-Salem, Forsyth County*

Bethabara is the site of a 1753 Moravian settlement near Winston-Salem. Archaeological investigations revealed remnants of original structures including pottery kilns, workshops, taverns, and residences, which have contributed to the understanding of Moravian culture (especially pottery traditions) and settlement in the area. Today, many of these foundations remain visible. The 1788 Gemeinhaus (church) still stands and the palisade wall, which offered protection during the French and Indian War, has been reconstructed. The site is open to the public and operated as a park by the City of Winston-Salem.

## Town Creek Indian Mound

*Mt. Gilead, Montgomery County*

Town Creek Indian Mound lies at the confluence of Town Creek and Little River. The temple mound was the site of political and ceremonial activities of the Pee Dee culture, around 1,000 years ago. Archaeological excavations at Town Creek began in 1937 and continued for more than 50 years. During this time, archaeologists uncovered the mound and many structures and features associated with it. The site has revealed important information about the cultural activities of American Indians and how the Mound served as a physical symbol of unity. Today, the restored platform mound and reconstructed buildings are a NC State Historic Site and open to the public.

## Union Square

*Raleigh, Wake County*

Union Square, located in the heart of downtown Raleigh, served as the site of the North Carolina legislature for over 150 years. Built in 1794, the original State House burned in 1831 and was replaced by the current State Capitol building, completed in 1840. Since the 1970s as the grounds have been developed, archaeological work has uncovered remnants of the original State Arsenal, a woodshed, two privies, and an old well. More recent excavations have revealed portions of the original State House and a railroad that was used to bring in materials for the second Capitol building. The site is now a National Historic Landmark and a NC State Historic Site and is open to the public.

# COASTAL PLAIN

## Eden House

*Windsor, Bertie County*

The Eden House site, situated on the west bank of the Chowan River, was the location of the house and plantation of Charles Eden, who served as governor of North Carolina from 1714 until his death in 1722. Prior to his acquisition of the land in 1718, the area was the location of several earlier colonial settlements dating back to the 1660s. In 1996, archaeological excavations at the site uncovered numerous structures and features associated with these earlier colonial occupations, providing a wealth of information about burgeoning colonial life in the Albemarle Region of North Carolina.

## Hatteras Shipwreck Inventory

*Hatteras, Dare County*

Over one hundred shipwreck sites have been recorded by the OSA on Cape Hatteras National Seashore alone and many more on other North Carolina beaches. Like specters from a bygone era, these broken vestiges of once magnificent ships give archaeologists and the beach-going public visceral evidence of the dangers involved with seafaring around the capes of North Carolina. Usually only exposed by storm-generated beach erosion, the shipwreck fragments often disappear again with the next tide. It takes a quick response and a little luck for archaeologists to glean as much information about ship construction as they can from the wrecks of these once massive movers of bulk cargo.

## Fort Fisher

*Kure Beach, New Hanover County*

Fort Fisher was a Confederate fort built in 1861 to protect the entrance of the Cape Fear River and the port of Wilmington. Union forces took the fort in January 1865, removing the Confederacy’s last defense of the southern port. Fort Fisher was briefly used for military purposes again during World War II as an air field. Many archaeological investigations have been done at Fort Fisher since then. Excavations in 1963 found the foundation for a lighthouse built before the Civil War that was turned into the fort headquarters during the war. More recent archaeological work has documented areas that will soon be destroyed by erosion. The fort is now a NC State Historic Site and is open to the public.

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# SHIFTING COASTLINE

## North Carolina’s Ancient Coastlines

The first people to live in North Carolina over 14,000 years ago would have seen a very different landscape from today. North Carolina’s coastline is constantly in motion as shifting sands and drifting inlets change the contours of the barrier islands and inland areas. Rising and falling ocean levels have also dramatically impacted our coastal region. Sea levels have fluctuated greatly throughout our state’s geologic history coinciding with climatic shifts that affected the amount of ocean water trapped on land as ice in the form of glaciers. Based on current estimates of ocean levels during the last glacial maximum (21,000 years ago), North Carolina’s ancient coastlines extended between 20 and 70 miles beyond today’s modern shoreline.