LOCUMULGEE ARCHEOLOGY:
A CHRONOLOGY

by

John W. Walker

Southeast Archeological Center
National Park Service
Tallahassee, Florida

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PREFACE

At the request of David J. Hally of the University of Georgia, organizer of the Ocmulgee National Monument Fiftieth Anniversary Conference, I consented to write a paper on the history of the Ocmulgee archeological investigations. We agreed that it would be primarily concerned with people and events and that no attempt would be made to detail the results of the investigations (Hally 1987).

Many sources were consulted in assembling the data used in the paper. Chief among them were: copies of correspondence and administrative reports retained at the park; Dr. Charles C. Harrold's archeological and historical clippings and copies of The Macon Telegraph at the Washington Public Library in Macon; correspondence, fieldnotes, and administrative reports contained in the Southeast Archeological Center data collections; historian Alan Marsh's administrative history of the park; Southeastern Archeological Conference publications; current research reports in American Antiquity; site reports, monographs, and theses, both published and unpublished; and conversations and/or correspondence with individuals who, in one way or another, participated in the investigations. Among the latter were: Gordon R. Willey, Jesse D. Jennings, James B. Griffin, and Cecil Coke, all of who provided information regarding their personal experiences which would not have been otherwise available.

The chronological framework used in organizing the paper was chosen for a number of reasons. Foremost among them was that it seemed to be the best way to bring together the many varying activities related to Ocmulgee which were going on at any one time and to indicate that it was often necessary for the archeological researchers to be involved simultaneously in the acquisition of funds and the establishment or development of the park as well as in archeological investigations. Secondly, it would show the cumulative development of archeological knowledge through time and clearly indicate the association of archeologists with specific projects and with other researchers. Lastly it would stress the short time span occupied by public works archeology in the overall history of interest in Ocmulgee archeology and indicate that archeological research has continued at Ocmulgee since World War II.

The paper also brings out an often overlooked facet of Ocmulgee archeology: that Ocmulgee archeologists played significant roles in inaugurating and carrying out, or overseeing, archeological projects at other Georgia sites during the period of Smithsonian Institution sponsorship and in conducting archeological research at other National Park Service areas throughout the Southeast after the park was formally established.

John W. Walker
Southeast Archeological Center
National Park Service
Tallahassee, Florida

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1675-1690

The earliest known reference to "Ocmulgee" was not to the archeological site by that name but to one of the 13 Apalachicola, or Lower Creek, towns on the Chattahoochee River listed by Gabriel Diaz Vara Calderon, the Bishop of Cuba, in 1675 (Wenhold 1936:9). It appears to have still been in the same location in 1685, when Antonio Matheos, commander of Spanish troops in Apalachee, twice ascended the river (Bolton 1925:121); but by 1690 the Ocmulgee town and most of the other Lower Creek towns had moved to central Georgia.

1690-1715

The "Okmulgees" were on Ochese Creek, the present Ocmulgee River, when South Carolina Governor John Archdale wrote of them in 1696 (Crane 1956:38). They were still there in 1703 when Colonel James Moore left the "Ockomulgee" town to raid the Apalachee mission settlements (Swanton 1922:121) and when James Lucas wrote a letter from the "Oakmulgas" in 1710 (McDowell 1955:6). However, it is relatively certain that the Ocmulgees returned to the Chattahoochee about 1715, for James Adair wrote that the "Okmulge" town was destroyed by the Carolinians about 1715 (Williams 1930:39), and Diego Pena listed "Ocmulque" as one of the Apalachicola towns on the Chattahoochee in 1716 (Boyd 1949:25).

1739

The oldest known description of mounds located within Ocmulgee National Monument was written in 1739 by a ranger who accompanied General James Oglethorpe to the Lower Creek town of Coweta, then on the Chattahoochee River. His account states that the Oglethorpe party "... camped at Ocmulgas River where there are three Mounts raised by the Indians over three of their Great Kings who were killed in the Wars" (Anonymous 1916:219). Almost certainly these mounds were Mounds A (the Great Temple Mound), B (the Lesser Temple Mound), and C (the Funeral Mound), since they are the ones situated nearest to the Lower Creek Trading Path.

1777-1778

William Bartram, who passed through Ocmulgee Old Fields in 1777 and again in 1778, described the site in some detail:
On the east banks of the Oakmulgee ..., the trading road runs nearly two miles through ancient Indian fields, which are called the Oakmulgee fields: they are the rich low lands of the river. [These] old fields ... extend up and down the river, fifteen or twenty miles from the site.

If we ... credit ... the account the Creeks give ... this place is remarkable for being the first town or settlement, when they sat down ... or established themselves, after their emigration from the west ... (Van Doren 1928:68).

[Also east of the river, on] ... the heights of these low grounds are yet visible monuments, or traces, of an ancient town, such as artificial mounts or terraces, squares and banks, encircling considerable areas.

[These] ... are yet conspicuous very wonderful remains of the ancients of this part of America in the ruins of a capital town and settlement ... (Van Doren 1928:307).

1805-1828

That the Creeks considered Ocmulgee Old Fields of especial importance is clearly indicated by the Treaty of 1805, in which all Creek lands east of the Ocmulgee River were ceded with the exception of a 15-square mile tract that included both the Macon Plateau and Lamar sites (Kappler 1972:85). Their interest in the preservation of these areas seems to be further corroborated by a survey of the reserve, which was made the following year "... to fix some points for the Secretary of War, ..." for 10 of these points were Indian "mounts" (Hawkins 1916:428-429). Seven of the 10 are included within the Macon Plateau section of Ocmulgee National Monument; and, although Mound E (the Southeast Mound) was not included in the survey, one mound, Mound X, which was not recognized as such in the 1930s, was included.

By 1828, when the lands of the Creek reserve were sold, the mounds had been romanticized and their origin questioned:

[Of the] ... ancient Mounds near Macon .... the one most noted, ... the Large Mound, is on the East side [of the River], about half a mile below the bridge....

[Its] top ... is about 120 feet above the bed of the river ... [and] 50 above the plain to the north....

Other mounds, of a small size, are near this.... These barrows ... are ... most notable ... and ... well worthy ... [of] attention....
With regard to their origin, the general opinion is that they are artificial ... [and] undoubtedly of remote antiquity as they exhibit ... too much labor to have been achieved by ... modern Indians (Bartlett 1828).

1843-1854

The idea of mound builders having been other than Indian does not seem to have remained long in vogue in Central Georgia. Certainly the following account of archeological materials being uncovered when the Central Georgia Railroad cut across the Macon Plateau site, destroying a large portion of Mound B, makes it clear that the artifacts were believed to be of Indian origin.

In September and October [1843], while cutting through the edge of the mounds ... for the road track, a number of Indian relics were exhumed, consisting of a large earthen pot, capable of holding eight gallons in which was ... burnt corn ... reduced to charcoal; also a number of skeletons ..., a variety of spoons; a singular formed stone ... and a stone axe; also five feet below the surface, a brass spoon in a bowl of Indian earthenware (Butler 1960:160).

At least two, and more likely four, of the mounds included within Ocmulgee National Monument were mentioned in the following account which George White published in 1849:

About three miles above Lamar's [the present Browns Mount] commences a chain of five artificial mounds. The first two are on the plantation of John B. Lamar, Esq. [the Lamar Site]. The remaining three are at regular intervals, the last one situated near the old blockhouse at Fort Hawkins .... The two [mounds] on Mr. Lamar's plantation have had the forest growth recently cleared from about them, and present a very distinct outline of circumvallations and other such works connecting them (1849:113-114).

The following year a Swedish visitor described two of the mounds (likely Mounds A and B of the Macon Plateau group as the railroad was nearest to them). Her description also indicates acceptance of Indians as builders of mounds: "A couple of so-called Indian mounds, that is, ancient burial hills of the Indians, ... which resemble our sepulchral mounds, excepting that they are larger and flatter at the top, ... were the only remarkable things we saw ..." (Bremer 1854:321).

George White published descriptions of Mound A and the McDougal Mound in his Historical Collections of Georgia in 1854. These differed from his earlier references to them in that, with the exception that he referred to "Indian mounds" rather than "Ancient mounds," and expressed no doubts concerning their origin, his descriptions
were made up of verbatim excerpts from Bartlett's 1828 account (White 1854:275, Bartlett 1828).

1872-1873

Writing of Georgia mound groups in 1872, William McKinley made mention of "the chain of Ockmulgee mounds, which are very large ones" and stated that he might have them surveyed (1873:424). However, it seems unlikely that such a survey was made because data regarding the mounds became available the next year when Charles C. Jones, Jr., published Antiquities of the Southern Indians, Particularly of the Georgia Tribes. Included in his coverage of the Macon area were: a map showing the locations of Mounds A, B, C, and D of the Macon Plateau group in regard to one another, the railroad tracks, and the Ocmulgee River; descriptions of their sizes and shapes and statements regarding their construction and their probable uses; a mention of the mounds on the Lamar Plantation; and a rather detailed description of the Browns Mount site fortifications (Jones 1973 Plate 4, 158-165).

Although the accuracy of his observations and his use of deductive reasoning are evident throughout the site and artifact descriptions, they are best illustrated by his conclusion that Mound C contained both historic and prehistoric burials. This conclusion was reached through study of two burials uncovered by the railroad construction that destroyed the northern portion of the mound in 1871. Having noted the superposition of the two burials with one being intrusive into the side of the mound and the other being under the mound, the association of glass beads and copper bells with the intrusive burial and their absence from the other, and the lack of cranial deformation in the intrusive burial as opposed to its presence in the burial under the mound, Jones concluded, "Here we have an interesting demonstration of the fact that these ancient tumuli were, in turn, used by tribes who had no knowledge, the one of the other" (1973:161).

1881-1894

The Bureau of Ethnology's mound exploration began in 1881 and continued for more than a decade. During that time, 10 Georgia sites were investigated (Thomas 1894:292-3), but no work was done at Ocmulgee or any other Central Georgia sites.

Brief descriptions of the Macon Plateau, Lamar ("Dr. Patterson's Plantation"), and Browns Mount sites were included in the Bureau's 1891 Catalogue of Prehistoric Sites East of the Rocky Mountains (Thomas 1891); however, these were taken from Jones (1973) and White (1854).
1922

In February 1922, General Walter A. Harris, a prominent Macon attorney and knowledgeable amateur historian, wrote to the Bureau of American Ethnology expressing an interest in public acquisition of the Indian remains located in Old Ocmulgee Fields in order to insure their preservation. The letter was acknowledged, but no further action was taken (Marsh 1986:7).

1929

General Harris again wrote to the Bureau of American Ethnology concerning Ocmulgee Old Fields in April 1929. This letter suggested that the City of Macon fund excavations supervised by Smithsonian archeologists. Evidently, the suggestion interested Matthew W. Stirling, the new Chief of the Bureau, for later that spring he "... visited the large mounds on the site of Old Ocmulgee Town, traditional founding place of the Creek Confederacy" (Stirling 1930:2).

1932

The Macon Telegraph of May 4, 1932, reported that General Harris, newly elected president of the Macon Historical Society, spoke to the Society on the significance of the Ocmulgee site. He stressed that "the South of today was sired by an English colony instead of a Spanish one ... due to the Creek Indians, whose weathering mounds stand beside the Ocmulgee River"; and he asked, "is it too much to ask of the white men...that, sometimes, when the Indian mounds ... attract their attention, they pay tribute...to the red men who held the unknown frontier for the English...?"

1933

On June 7, 1933, the Telegraph published an article stating that General Harris had aroused the community's interest in exploration of the Ocmulgee mounds and that through his efforts and those of other members of the Historical Society, who "...were ably assisted by [Georgia] Congressman Carl Vinson...," the Smithsonian had become interested in investigation of the site.

The article continued with the suggestion "...that the lost colony of Roanoke Island...might have found its way into Old Ocmulgee Fields." It did admit that "...the idea of the lost colony is merely surmise...," but it pointed out that "it indicates what thrills might be in store... as the Government lends its aid to the development of the...story of the Old...Fields."
This reference to Federal sponsorship was premature, for the first Civil Works Administration sponsored archeological investigations, those at Marksville, Louisiana, did not begin until August, and no others began before December 1933.

Encouraged by Walter B. Jones, Director of the Alabama Museum of Natural History and the person responsible for the purchase of the Moundville site and initiation of excavations there, General Harris issued an invitation to all Georgians with an interest in archeology to meet in Macon on October 13, 1933, to consider organization of a state archeological society. The meeting resulted in the formation of The Society for Georgia Archaeology. Dr. Charles C. Harrold, highly regarded Macon surgeon and amateur historian, was elected President of the Society; Linton M. Solomon, a well-known Macon businessman was elected Secretary; and General Harris was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee (Smith 1939:13-14).

The November 17, 1933, Telegraph reported that, urged on by addresses by General Harris and Dr. Harrold, the Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce had obtained options to purchase Mound A and several other mounds and was considering restoration of them for their historical value.

On December 7, 1933, Matthew W. Stirling, Chief of the Bureau of Ethnology, notified Dr. Harrold that Ocmulgee was one of the 11 archeological projects for which Civil Works Administration funding had been approved.

Two days later, Stirling wrote to Arthur R. Kelly, a 33-year-old Harvard trained anthropologist, notifying him that he had been selected to direct the project. Kelly's doctorate was in physical anthropology, but he had a creditable background in archeology. His B.A. was obtained in 1921 from the University of Texas, where J. E. Pearce had founded an anthropology department in 1917 and had been carrying out archeological investigations in conjunction with Smithsonian archeologists since 1919. Following graduation, Kelly had remained as a department staff member until 1925 when he entered Harvard University. There he was a Hemenway Fellow in American Archaeology, 1925-1927, and a teaching and research assistant, 1927-1929. After being awarded a doctorate in 1929, he accepted an assistant professorship in anthropology at the University of Illinois, where he taught for four years, 1929-1933. For two of those years, 1929-1930, he also served as Director of the Illinois Archeological Survey, in which capacity he conducted two seasons of fieldwork at Cahokia, Starved Rock, and Fountain Bluff. Based on this research, he published two papers, one co-authored with Fay-Cooper Cole (Kelly 1933, Kelly and Cole 1931). However, following the discontinuation of archeological research at Illinois due to the financial condition of the state, Kelly had returned to Texas where he was conducting a study of the physical characteristics of the Alibamu Indians for Earnest A. Hooton, who had been his major professor at Harvard.

Stirling's letter contained Government Transportation Requests to cover train fare from Orange, Texas, to Macon via Atlanta and instructions to confer with the Georgia Chairman of the CWA in Atlanta and with Dr. Harrold upon arrival in Macon. It explained that Kelly would receive a salary of $50.00 per week once his
name was on the CWA rolls and that James A. Ford, who was to serve as Kelly’s assistant in conducting the nine-week project, had been instructed to report to him in Macon.

James A. Ford was a 22-year old undergraduate who had begun fieldwork upon graduation from high school in 1927. His archeological experience included: three summers (1927, 1928, and 1929) participating in an archeological survey of Mississippi which was jointly sponsored by the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Smithsonian Institution; one summer (1930) assisting Smithsonian archeologist Henry B. Collins, Jr., in investigations on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska; 18 months (1931-1932) excavating in the Point Barrow, Alaska, area as a Smithsonian employee; seven months (1933) carrying out an archeological survey in Mississippi and Louisiana under a National Research Council grant; three months (August-October 1933) assisting Smithsonian archeologist Frank M. Setzler in the excavation and restoration of the Marksville site in Louisiana, and one month (November 1933) supervising the Marksville project following Setzler’s departure (Ford 1934:74-75). The latter project was the first archeological involvement in the relief effort, and its successful use of more than 100 unskilled laborers convinced CWA officials to accept the Smithsonian’s proposal that further projects of this type be funded (Setzler 1956:1, Haag 1985:274). Of course, Ford’s Marksville experience made him uniquely qualified for the Macon project.

The Telegraph for December 15, 1933, announced that Kelly, accompanied by Ford, had arrived on the previous day and that the CWA headquarters had granted the authority for the employment of 205 men until February 15, 1934. Actual work began on December 20, with one crew of 100 CWA workers put to work clearing Mound A of the Macon Plateau group while another crew of 100 were improving the road that led to the mound.

Within a few days, Kelly and Ford had selected 45 of the CWA workmen from the more highly trained professional groups and begun a three-month archeological night school which was designed to train them for positions as trowel men, engineering assistants, laboratory technicians, and excavation foremen (Kelly 1935c:119).

Work on the northern, disturbed portion of Mound C began on December 26. It was not, however, until December 29 that the sixth excavation trench exposed an undisturbed mound surface. It was also on December 29 that work began on Mound D (the Cornfield Mound).

Although they differed considerably in age, education, and experience, it appears that the two men had quickly developed a good working relationship and that each had a genuine respect for the other’s abilities. Statements contained in personal correspondence seem to bear this out: Ford wrote to Collins that he liked Kelly, whom he described as having "... substantial ideas on the subject of archeology and ... [as being] not ... too much perverted by his Harvard training;" and Kelly wrote to Stirling that Ford’s "... technique in exploring house sites is one of the finest
examples of workmanship I have seen" (Lyon 1982:35,37).

On January 2, 1934, with 157 CWA employees split between them, Kelly and Ford were heading what were in effect two complete, separate field organizations. Kelly was directing excavations at Mounds C, D, and A on the Macon Plateau; and Ford was excavating Mound A, the truncated pyramidal mound, and a nearby low house platform at the Lamar site, some three miles downstream from Macon (Kelly 1935d).

By January 11, 243 men were employed, and one week later the number had reached 274. In order to facilitate supervision of so many workmen, two rather unorthodox steps were taken: (1) the project was run on a two-shift day, six-day week work schedule, and (2) the workmen who were being trained in the archeological night classes were placed in the positions for which they were being trained.

At Mound C, Kelly was assisted by "Mr. [Frank E.] Lester," who recorded postholes, and "Mr. [John T.] West," who catalogued artifacts; at Mound D, by "Mr. Lavender" and "Mr. Griffith"; and at Mound A, by "Mr. Lifsey," who kept fieldnotes. "Mr. Napier" was the engineer for the Macon Plateau. At Lamar "Mr. Cawthorne" and "Mr. Hulgan" assisted Ford.

Both Kelly and Ford used the photographic services of Joseph B. Coke, a 24-year old Macon resident who had earned part of his college costs by taking photographs, was agile and daring enough to climb Ford's makeshift photography tower, and owned an 8-by 10-inch camera. He was assisted by his 18-year old brother, Cecil R. Coke, who developed the film and printed the negatives. It is their photographs that so well document Macon archeology of the 1930s.

Small blue glass trade beads were found in association with burials at Mound C, and Kelly wrote to John R. Swanton, a Bureau of American Ethnology anthropologist who was the most eminent authority in Creek ethnohistory, regarding them. Swanton's interest was aroused, and he asked that the beads be submitted to the Bureau for identification. Some time later, Swanton wrote to Kelly stating that the beads dated from the period of 1700-1730, dates not in conflict with the known abandonment of the site by the Creeks in 1715. Swanton, along with General Harris and Dr. Harrold, must have been pleased, for each of them had expressed the hope that a historic Creek settlement would be found. However, because of artifact content and the use of "... archeological trenching with straight, vertical profiles neatly dressed [which] brought out [details of mound construction] in sharp relief ..." (Kelly 1935c:119), Kelly and Ford recognized the historic burials to be intrusive into the prehistoric mounds on the Macon Plateau; but they were less certain of Lamar's age.

In excavating Mound D, Kelly noted on January 16, that he was having the "... squares ... dug so as to preserve partitions of earth [between them] and so afford a record of stratigraphic changes from the surface down."
Atop Mound A on the Macon Plateau, the excavation of a 10- by 15-foot trench was begun on January 26, 1934. It was intended to reach mound base so that the internal structure of the mound could be determined.

On February 5, 1934, Georgia Congressman Carl Vinson introduced a bill seeking appropriation of about $50,000 for the acquisition of 2,000 acres of land near Macon on which to establish a national park to be known as Old Ocmulgee Fields. At that time, there were 343 men employed in the excavations, and local civic groups saw archeology and the park as an interesting way of combatting the depression.

The initial CWA project ended on February 15, 1934, as planned, and all of the laborers were laid off. However, the City of Macon's request for continuance was approved, and work began again on February 19.

The Earthlodge was found on February 21; but, after limited testing, excavation was postponed.

A February 25, 1934, issue of The Macon Telegraph and News carried an article entitled "Smithsonian Authorities To Lead Study and Inspection of Macon Indian Mounds." This article announced that Swanton would be arriving on the twenty-sixth and Stirling on the twenty-seventh, with Stirling giving a public address on the twenty-eighth and Swanton talking to the Society for Georgia Archeology on March 2. The article also announced that on a tour to Lamar on February 28, newsreel cameramen would be present to photograph 500 school girls in white dresses lined in single file up the spiral rampway on Mound B.

Stirling soon returned to Washington; but Swanton, who as Chairman of the United States De Soto Expedition Commission was trying to trace the route that he followed, stayed on to visit Central Georgia archeological sites that might have been along the route.

In early March, the 10- by 15-foot shaft on Mound A collapsed at a depth of 28 feet and, according to apocryphal sources, almost buried Ford. Unfortunately, the notes on mound construction were not detailed, and no profiles were drawn. Hence, little was learned regarding the mound except that it, like Mound C, is of composite construction.

By March 17, enough of the Earthlodge, or "circular winter council house" as it was then called, had been uncovered that its significance was recognized, and it was decided that a protective roof should be constructed over it.

Swanton, having concluded that De Soto crossed the Ocmulgee River at Abbeville and the Oconee River at Carrs Shoals, left Macon on March 19. With him he took a careful description of the Earthlodge.

Work under CWA sponsorship ceased on March 31, 1934; but it began again under Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) sponsorship on April 4, 1934.
Ford was then working in the Mound D/Earthlodge area, and on April 5 and 6, his assistant, Mr. Hulgan, reported finding burned corn cobs in the Mound D area. On April 6, after study of the undulating surface underlying Mound D, Ford suggested that "... the mound base ... may indicate ancient garden beds, cultivation rows, or hills."

Interest in both the field and the Earthlodge increased; and, by April 19, it had been decided that a replica of the lodge would be on display in the Georgia booth at the Chicago World Fair.

Another item of interest at that time was an oil painting of the multi-colored profile of Mound C. Kelly, who had been intrigued by the multi-stage construction of the mound and the presumed symbolism of the differing colors of those stages, had asked the Cokes to try photographing the mound in color. After they had tried and failed to obtain a film which would reproduce the colors accurately (Cecil R. Coke, personal communication 1987), Kelly asked Mrs. Carolyn Smith Meriwether to do a painting of the Mound profile. It was completed by mid-April and, having been exhibited in Macon for a short time, was to be sent to the Smithsonian for exhibit. (It is now on exhibit at Ocmulgee National Monument.)

On May 3, 1934, Arno B. Cammerer, Director of the National Park service, wrote to Congressman Vinson urging that the people of Macon purchase the lands for inclusion in the proposed park.

Ford left Ocmulgee on May 26, having been employed by the Georgia State Parks Department to test a tabby ruin at Elizafield Plantation on the Georgia coast. This ruin was believed by some romantics to be the remains of a Spanish mission, but Ford determined that it was the ruin of a nineteenth century sugar mill (Ford 1937).

A city-wide campaign to raise $25,000 to purchase 2,000 acres for inclusion in the park began June 5, 1934. This was followed on June 14, by approval of the Act to authorize the establishment of Ocmulgee National Monument in Bibb County, Georgia. This Act provided that the area would be set aside as a national monument by Presidential proclamation when adequate lands for the purpose were donated to the United States.

From June 21 through August 17, 1934, excavations were carried out at Mound E (the Southeast Mound).

In October, the excavations of the fortification trenches on the North Plateau were expanded. Ford had considered the portions of the trenches excavated prior to his departure to be pit houses, and Kelly retained the idea for some time, even referring to a "... remarkable village of subterranean house sites" (1935b).

Swanton, accompanied by Frank M. Setzler, Assistant Curator of Archeology in the National Museum, arrived in Macon in late November and stayed through the first
week of December. During that time, they visited a number of sites in the vicinity and delivered lectures to groups interested in local anthropology (Stirling 1936:32).

On December 2, a new FERA-sponsored project was begun at Mile Track in Central City Park just across the river from Ocmulgee. The excavations at Mile Track continued until April 17, 1935, whereas the work on the fortification trenches ceased in March, and the excavations at the Napier site, which had begun in February, continued until June.

In March, the first of three articles by Kelly on the initial six months of archeological investigations at Ocmulgee was published in *Scientific American* (Kelly 1935c), which in the years preceding *American Antiquity* was one of the few journals publishing articles on American archeology.

By the end of that month, National Park Service officials had begun laying out the proposed boundaries for the Monument, and deeds to some 435 acres had been mailed to the Service's Washington Office.

From April 8 through August 2, investigations were carried out on the summit of Browns Mount. To assist in these investigations, Leon P. Smith, a geologist who was Dean of Wesleyan College in Macon, made a study of the site's geology (Smith 1935).

The Deer Park site in Central City Park was tested beginning on April 10 and lasting until June 6, 1935; and work at the Horseshoe Bend site, near Lamar, began on May 3 and continued until July 29, 1935.

On June 6, 1935, General Harris, president of the Macon Historical Society; S. Gus Jones, Indian Mound Chairman for the Macon Junior Chamber of Commerce; and W. E. Dunwoody, Citizens Committee Chairman, issued the following statement: "When the campaign to raise funds necessary to purchase additional land ... for establishment of the ... Monument was started, it was estimated that $8,500 would be sufficient... $8,500 is raised." However, because of difficulties in acquiring some properties and clear titles to others, it was to be several months before the park was established.

Stirling and Setzler arrived in Macon on June 19. Stirling stayed only a short time, but Setzler stayed two weeks. While looking through the field collections with Setzler, Kelly recognized a "...Folsom projectile point..." (Kelly 1935a). This point (better described as an eastern Clovis) had been recovered on March 23, 1935, on the North Plateau, a short distance to the west of the Earthlodge. It was found in the weathered tan sand, eight inches below the plowzone. Neither Kelly nor Ford had seen the point, and, quite understandably, it was not recognized by any of the field crew chiefs or laboratory supervisors from the archeology night school.

Antonio J. Waring, a frequent visitor to the excavations, wrote of the find: "Georgia's first fluted point was fortunately found in good archeological context ... in
a controlled excavation [and] in a pre-pottery context ... I ... then spent the summer sitting on the edge of the excavation watching each shovelful of dirt and every spall of flint in the ... hope that more fluted points would be found" (1968a:237).

During the first week in July, it was recognized that a structure on Browns Mount was a collapsed earthlodge rather than a low mound as originally thought (Kelly 1938d:24). Like the North Plateau lodge it was circular and had a central firepit, but otherwise it was quite different (Fairbanks 1940f; 1946b).

It is important to note that at that time Kelly was carrying out investigations around Macon which employed approximately 700 laborers working in shifts. Yet he was without supervisory help save for the men who had been trained in the archeological night school.

Work at the rockshelter known as Shellrock Cave began July 30 and continued through September 11. During that period, The Macon Telegraph announced approval of a Works Progress Administration allotment for further Ocmulgee excavation.

Swanton, William S. Webb of the University of Kentucky, and T. M. N. Lewis of the University of Tennessee visited Ocmulgee in mid-August. Webb, a physicist by training, was chairman of the University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology and headed the Tennessee Valley Authority’s archeological salvage program. Later he wrote to Kelly in regard to one of the Macon Plateau houses, "...you have a 'small log town house' as we have denominated the structure in Norris Basin..." (1935).

By late 1935, Kelly recognized that there were at least four cultural complexes, or foci, represented on the Macon Plateau and at Lamar. These were: (1) a complicated stamped complex (Swift Creek) which predated the Macon mounds, (2) a consistent Macon Plateau pottery complex, (3) a Lamar complex, and (4) a historic Creek complex. He also referred to two other pottery types, Delta (Napier Complicated Stamped) and checker board stamp (Deptford Check Stamped), but was unsure of their associations.

The New York Herald Tribune of November 24, 1935, carried a full-page article by Frank Setzler stating, "The Macon project ... with a employment ... of as many as 800 workers, easily becomes the largest and most significant effort of that sort now in progress in this country."

Philip Phillips, then a Harvard University graduate student, spent several days at Ocmulgee in early January 1936. He was particularly interested in the ceramics and ceramic classification; and, after returning to Harvard, he sent copies of Volume I and II of The Pottery of Pecos (Kidder 1931, Kidder and Shepard 1936) to Kelly and John T. West, the laboratory supervisor.

Fieldwork was concentrated on the Middle Plateau, especially in the Trading Post area, in January and February; and it continued there through early November.
Work began on the McDougald Mound in mid-February and on the Dunlap Mound in early March. During that period, James B. Griffin, who had just completed a three-year Graduate Fellowship in Aboriginal North American Ceramics at the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology, spent several days with Kelly and West working on a pottery classification system for Central Georgia ceramics (Griffin 1976:21, 25).

The pottery classification code which they prepared appears to have been based largely on the one Griffin used in the analysis of ceramics recovered from the Norris Basin in eastern Tennessee (Griffin 1938). Major characteristics used in both systems were: temper, paste texture, hardness, surface finish, decoration, vessel shape, and general vessel morphology. For each of these characteristics, there were a number of modes or attributes. Surface finish, for example, could be classified as being: (1) very rough, (2) rough, (3) smooth, (4) glossy, (5) polished, (6) vermiculated, or (7) glistening.

There were, of course, differences between the two classifications which reflected the differences in the ceramics of the two areas. The Central Georgia code also differed in that it put forth an incipient pottery typology based on surface decoration. It recognized four "... specialized stamped or paddle marked ..." decorative techniques which it designated as: (1) Alpha, or curvilinear complicated stamped, (2) Sigma, or simple stamped, (3) Delta, or "...fine line cameo effect" (Napier Complicated Stamped), and (4) Pi, or check stamped (Griffin and Kelly 1936). That these designations were Kelly's idea, and not his, has been emphatically stated by Griffin (personal communication 1988).

The previous November Kelly had contacted the National Park Service to request that H. Summerfield Day, a Park Service Assistant Archeologist working at Jamestown, Virginia, be transferred to Ocmulgee to oversee reconstruction of the earthlodge and erection of field exhibit shelters at Mounds C and D (Kahler 1935; Kelly 1936a). As the park had not yet been officially established, the request was not granted. However, it was decided that Day should visit the park and prepare a report on his findings; and on March 1, The Macon Telegraph reported that he was in Macon examining possibilities for field exhibits. His report of the visit discussed the major archeological features of the Macon Plateau and Lamar sites and made recommendations for their future development. Chief among the recommendations were: (1) reconstruction of the earthlodge, five or six of the "pit houses," and the stockade of the Colonial Trading Post; (2) the building of shelters to cover the exposed Mound C profile and the field found under Mound D; (3) the construction of a museum; and (4) the detailing of a Park Service archeologist to the park (Day 1936).

On March 4, Kelly wrote to Swanton regarding the Trading Post. In this letter he described the evidence suggesting a horizontal log palisade and mentioned the recent acquisition of a brass weight dated 1712 which had been found on the site some 55 years earlier (Kelly 1936b). Ten days later Swanton replied: "... what you have is the site of the English trading house ... [which was located there] between
1690 and 1715 ... [At] that time there were ... two main centers among the Lower Creeks, one at the Coweta town higher up the river and the other at Okmulgee ..." (1936). Also included in his reply was a preliminary historical chronology for the Lower Creeks:

Period when the Ocmulgee [River] Indians traded with St. Augustine 1565-1647

Period when trade was carried on with the Spanish posts in the Apalachee province, beginning probably after the end of the Apalachee rebellion of 1647 and extending to 1690, or 1647-1690

Period during which most of the Lower Creek towns were on the Ocmulgee and the English were paramount 1690-1715

Later period of occupancy of the Chattahoochee River region by the Lower Creeks 1715-1836

(Swanton 1936) It might be noted that this chronology is reflected in many later works with but minor change (Fairbanks 1956a).

It was also during the first half of March that construction of the airport on St. Simons Island in Glynn County, Georgia, turned up a number of human bones. Setzler came to investigate the find and uncovered several skeletons. Dr. Harrold, accompanied by Linton Solomon and Leon Smith, arrived at the site just after Setzler realized that a more complete excavation would be required. At Harrold's urging, Kelly wrote a proposal for a Glynn County archeological project. The project was approved, and by June 1936, "... an 'offspring' of Macon was established ... on the Georgia Coast" (Waring 1968b:296). The archeologist selected to carry out this work was Preston Holder (Holder 1938, Chance 1974).

In late March, exploration was begun at the Swift Creek site. This project was set up by WPA authorities to employ 30 to 40 Negro women as an archeological field crew working under supervisors who had been trained in the archeological night school. Kelly was the principal investigator. Among the project supervisor were: "... Hugh Hanna ... (,) unit supervisor; Joseph Tamplin, engineer; Joseph Coke, photographer; and James Jackson, artist-illustrator" (Kelly and Smith 1975:2).

By April 10, John T. West, the laboratory supervisor, had run a test of the ceramic code. Of the results, Kelly wrote to Swanton:

We have just completed a ... detailed study of 5,000 Lamar sherds ... using the pottery code which Jimmy Griffin and I worked out.... There is more homogeneity at Lamar than I had suspected. Now I consider
that the Lamar type site establishes a horizon duplicated at Nacoochee, Etowah, Oconee, Neisler, Toa, and at Kolomoki ... sites having been in their prime either at the time of De Soto or preceding him (1936c).

On May 1, 1936, The Macon Telegraph printed an article entitled "Old Ocmulgee Fields," which was written by Dr. Harrold to be used as a guide to Ocmulgee by school children and other visitors.

In late June, six anthropology graduate students from various universities, who had been chosen by the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to participate in a summer field program in archeology, arrived in Macon to work under Kelly. The six were: Gordon R. Willey, who had just received a master's degree from the University of Arizona; Walter W. Taylor, Jr., a graduate student at Yale University; J. Lawrence Angel, who had just received a bachelor's degree from Harvard University; Joseph Birdsell, a Harvard University graduate student; Charles Wagley, a Columbia University graduate student; and Han-Yi Feng, who had just obtained a doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania.

Their first assignment was hands-on training in civil engineering under Tamplin, whose college degree was in engineering. They then recorded and removed the charred timbers from the Earthlodge.

On July 22, they began work on the so-called Adkins Mound, an erosional remnant near the Swift Creek site (Kelly 1938d:26). This work was terminated after August 3 because the site was not very productive.

From August 6 through August 28, when the training program ended, the group carried out excavations at Stubbs Mound on the Tobesofkee Creek drainage south of Macon (Kelly 1938d:34, Williams 1975).

During the summer, work on the Middle Plateau, at the Swift Creek site, and on St. Simons Island continued; and other projects were begun. Excavation of trenches on the South Plateau between Mounds A and B were reinitiated on July 8, and by July 15, the laboratory had classified 3,240 sherds from the Bull Creek site near Columbus, Georgia, which had been excavated under the direction of Frank Lester, one of the Ocmulgee-trained supervisors. The latter project was carried out in cooperation with Isabel Garrard Patterson, an influential Columbus amateur archeologist and historian (Patterson 1936, 1950; Kelly 1938d:51).

When it came time for the students to leave, Kelly asked Willey to stay on as his assistant, and Willey agreed. Initially he continued work at Stubbs Mound; but beginning on September 8, he supervised test excavations at Fort Hawkins, the U.S. Army fort built in 1806 on the reserve that the Creeks retained east of the Ocmulgee River (Willey 1936).

Encouraged by Antonio J. Waring and other Savannah residents, Kelly prepared a
proposal for WPA sponsored archeological investigations at the Irene site. This proposal was submitted to the State WPA Office on September 16, 1936. It was Kelly's intention that the investigations would be headed by Preston Holder (as they later were) and that Walter Taylor would serve as his assistant. With the understanding that approval of the project was imminent, Taylor left New York for Macon on September 23, planning to visit with Willey and Kelly until the project got underway (Taylor 1936). However, before he reached Macon, it had been learned that the project's approval would be delayed for some time; and he left after spending only a few days (Gordon R. Willey, personal communication 1988).

By the end of October, Willey was involved in obtaining dendrochronological specimens from living trees, structural timbers, and charred wood from archeological contexts. Linton Solomon assisted him in this.

On December 21, reconstruction of the Earthlodge began under the direction of James T. Swanson, a National Park Service architect. Two days later, Ocmulgee National Monument was officially established by Presidential proclamation, and Swanson was named Acting Superintendent. Kelly was then designated as Archeologist for WPA Projects; and Willey, as Assistant Archeologist for WPA Projects.

At the second annual meeting of the Society for American Archeology, which was held in Washington, D.C., on December 29, 1936, Isabel Garrard Patterson presented a paper entitled "Archaeological Survey of the Chattahoochee Valley in Georgia." Much of this paper was devoted to reporting on the Bull Creek site excavation (Patterson 1936).

In January 1937, Philip Phillips again visited Ocmulgee. After several days of "talking pottery" with Kelly and Willey, the three of them, accompanied by Macon dentist W. B. Childs, drove to the Georgia Coast to visit Holder's excavations (Gordon R. Willey, personal communication 1988).

Throughout the remainder of the winter and into the spring Kelly was primarily occupied with excavation between Mounds A and B on the South Plateau where he found a nine-foot deposit containing a complex series of earthlodge floors located one above the other. Willey, with continued assistance from Linton Solomon, remained involved with dendrochronology.

It was announced on March 6, 1937, that a Civilian Conservation Corps camp with some 250 enrollees would be established at Ocmulgee by April 1, primarily for the purpose of park development. However, it was also announced that the WPA labor force had been cut from 200 to 65 men, most of whom would be involved in restoration of the earthlodge under Swanson's direction. With the establishment of the CCC camp in May 1937, the 250 enrollees were assigned to three major duties: park development related construction, restoration of the earthlodge, and archeological investigations. The number of enrollees assigned to the latter was quite limited.
James Ford, who had uncovered the earthlodge in the spring of 1934, returned to Ocmulgee in late May to serve as a consultant in the reconstruction of the lodge interior.

Having been informed that the WPA work force would be withdrawn on June 1, 1937, and knowing that only a limited number of CCC enrollees would be available for archeological investigation, Kelly realized he could not continue to carry out large scale excavations. In their stead, he and Willey decided to conduct stratigraphic surveys of many sites in the general area in the hope of obtaining good cultural stratigraphy. Kelly, who was made Project Superintendent for the CCC camp, assigned Willey, now titled CCC Senior Foreman Archeologist, to carry out the surveys.

The first of the stratigraphic test projects began on June 7 and continued through June 10, 1937. The test pits, which were located in the Ocmulgee River flood plain some 275 meters southwest of Mound A, produced evidence of a historic Creek occupation but none of earlier occupations (Walker 1961:8-9).

Among the other sites tested in the stratigraphic survey that year were: Lamar, Mound C village, Southeastern Plateau Spur No. 1, Southeastern Plateau Spur No. 2, Tuft Springs No. 1, Tuft Springs No. 2, Scott, Napier, Hawkins Point, Mossy Oak, and Cowarts Landing, all in Bibb County; Big Sandy No. 1, in Butts County; and Lords Ridge, in Wilkinson County. Willey later reported on the tests at the Cowarts Landing site, where Lamar ceramics were found above Swift Creek ceramics in good stratigraphic context (1939:140-147). This was a significant find, for, although Kelly had been aware of the relative chronological position of the two as early as late 1935, he had not found them together on a site with good stratigraphy.

On July 30, 1937, Kelly submitted a manuscript entitled "Glimpses of a Macon Chronology: A Statement of Progress at the End of Three Years of Field Work" (1937a) to the Smithsonian and the National Park Service. This report was published the following year as A Preliminary Report on Archaeological Exploration at Macon, Georgia (Kelly 1938d).

Preston Holder began excavation at the Irene Mound at Savannah on September 10, 1937, under the project proposal which had been prepared by Kelly the previous year. This project, like the one at Swift Creek, made use of Negro women as a work force (McIntyre 1939).

In September 1937, Ford went to the University of Michigan to work on a master's degree. In discussions with James Griffin, it was soon agreed that they would organize a meeting of archeologists to formulate a ceramic typology for the Eastern United States.

Early in October, Kelly was given a small collection of sherds from a site near Keelings Camp, which was located in Houston County at the confluence of Big Indian Creek and the Ocmulgee River. The collection interested him, for he saw it
as being "Late Swift Creek" and related to the ceramics from both the Evelyn Plantation and Kolomoki sites (Kelly 1938d:44-45). On October 23, he wrote to the owner requesting permission for Willey to test the site; but permission was refused. Almost 25 years later re-examination of materials from the site disclosed a Weeden Island component. As "... the Weeden Island complex of the Florida Gulf Coast ..." was not defined until 1945 (Willey 1945) and as its presence on a Georgia stream flowing into the Atlantic was not recognized until 1965 (Neilson 1967), it is interesting to speculate how differently this segment of Southeastern prehistory might have been interpreted had Willey been allowed to investigate the site at that time.

Willey conducted stratigraphic surveys at the Big Sandy No. 1 site in October and at the Scott site in November. Both were sites with thin cultural deposits which were confined to the plowzone; and Willey, recognizing that the only stratigraphy present was horizontal stratigraphy, introduced an archeological surface collection strategy which he termed "Recorded Surface Areas." The collection areas were established by laying out a line of circles -- each was 200 feet in diameter at Big Sandy No. 1 and 100 feet in diameter at the Scott site. Surface materials were gathered from each of the circles for percentage studies.

The Earthlodge reconstruction was completed in early November, and on November 27, it was opened to the public.

Both Kelly and Willey attended a regional meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, which was held in New Haven, Connecticut, in December 1937; and both delivered papers. Kelly's was entitled "Lamar and Related Site Exploration in Georgia" (1937b); Willey's, "Preliminary Dendrochronological Studies in Central Georgia" (1937b).

Later that month, Kelly was appointed to an Associate Archeologist position with the National Park Service. However, his duty station (Ocmulgee) remained unchanged. On January 18, 1938, he wrote to Ford regarding the appointment. Although he complained that no provision had been made for office assistance in line with the added responsibilities, he expressed pleasure that "... the Regional Office ... is sending sherds from all over the southeast... [, adding that] today we received sherd collections from ... 6 different ... states" (Kelly 1938a).

Willey continued conducting stratigraphic surveys in early 1938, carrying out surveys of sites such as: areas of the Southeastern Plateau not tested the previous year, the Swift Creek site, and the Stubbs Mound site, all in Bibb County; and the Oconee Town site in Baldwin County.

During that spring, Willey made a short survey trip to Panama City, Florida. There he became intrigued by the association of stamped ceramic wares similar to those of Central Georgia with incised and punctated types resembling those found in the Lower Mississippi Valley. "Here," he later wrote, "on the Florida Gulf, were the means of relating the Louisiana and Central Georgia cultural sequences, in 1938
the only ones known for the lower Southeast" (1949:xix).

So that he could devote full time to the design of the park visitor center, Swanson was replaced as Acting Superintendent by Frank Lester on February 16, 1938. In turn, on April 10, Lester was replaced as Acting Superintendent by Jesse D. Jennings, who transferred from Montezuma Castle National Monument in Arizona.

One hundred fifteen WPA workmen were assigned to Ocmulgee on March 13, 1938, for a three-month period and were placed under Kelly's supervision. He put them to work on the South Plateau between Mounds A and B. Nine days later, 20 more WPA workers were assigned to the project. They were allocated to the laboratory, where West put them to work cataloging.

Archeological data recovery began April 19 at the Lamar site in areas which would be affected by construction of a levee around the site. This work, which was supervised by James H. Jackson, continued throughout the year.

On three occasions during the previous winter Charles W. Porter, III, a Park Service historian researching Fort Raleigh on Roanoke Island, North Carolina, had sent Kelly aboriginal artifacts collected from nearby sites. At Porter's request, Kelly visited the Island on April 24 and made surface collections from three sites near the fort. While in the area he also collected artifacts from sites within the then proposed Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

The stratigraphic survey fieldwork ended in late April, and Willey began analysis of the data he had recovered.

At the May 6, 1938, meeting of the Society for Georgia Archaeology, Kelly gave a paper on "The need of a Museum of Southeastern Archeology" (1938c). This paper seems to have greatly impressed the Society, for it passed a lengthy resolution which stated in part: "That the Society for Georgia Archaeology ... most strongly urges the establishment, at Ocmulgee National Monument at Macon, Georgia, of a central museum and research institution for Southeastern archaeology under the cooperative sponsorship of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Park Service, and other interested organizations ..." (Smith 1938:13). Willey also presented a paper. It was entitled "Time Studies: Pottery and Trees in Georgia" (Willey 1938a).

Throughout the winter of 1937-1938 and continuing into the spring, Griffin and Ford had carried on correspondence regarding the formulation of a ceramic typology framework with a number of Southeastern archeologists including Kelly, Willey, Holder, and William G. Haag.

Because the third annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology was to be held in conjunction with a meeting of the Central Section of the American Anthropological Association in Milwaukee on May 13-14, 1938, Griffin and Ford selected May 16-17 as the dates for the ceramic typology meeting which was to be held at Ann Arbor. Accompanying the notice of this meeting was a six-page
mimeographed statement which included suggestions that had been received and requested that participants bring provisional pottery type descriptions to the meeting (Ford and Griffin 1960a).

Both Kelly and Willey planned to attend the Milwaukee meeting and to participate in the ceramic typology discussions. At Griffin's suggestion, Joffre L. Coe, then a 21-year-old undergraduate student at the University of North Carolina, arranged to ride with them to the meetings. At the last minute, Willey was unable to make the trip; but "Coe did attend [both meetings] with Kelly" (Griffin 1985:296).

At the Society for American Archaeology meeting Kelly delivered a paper entitled "The Southeast as an Archaeological Area" (1938e). He also read Willey's paper on the Cowarts Landing site, "Ceramic Stratigraphy in a Georgia Village Site" (Willey 1939:140-147).

Among the 15 archeologists who attended the ceramic typology meeting at the Ceramic Repository for the Eastern United States (a division of the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology) were Griffin, Ford, Kelly, and Charles H. Fairbanks, then associated with the University of Tennessee. Like Willey, Holder was unable to attend this meeting (Ford and Griffin 1960b), which is now regarded as the first Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

Beginning May 23 and continuing until June 10, 1938, Willey tested the Lawson Field site at Fort Benning, Georgia. This site is believed to have been the site of the Lower Creek Kasita Town, which was occupied from 1715 until the Creek removal (Willey 1938b, Willey and Sears 1952).

On June 1, 1938, ground was broken for the construction of the park visitor center. Among those present and taking part in the ceremony were Dr. Harrold, General Harris, Linton Solomon, and Acting Superintendent Jennings. Kelly was in the Region One (now Southeast Region) Office in Richmond and was leaving that day for a meeting in the Washington Office.

Later that month, Jennings prepared a report entitled "Ocmulgee Archaeology: Summary through May 1938." This report presented a very brief history of the investigations which had been carried on at the park and the following plans for further work:

For the future it is hoped that Dr. Kelly will be able to get out a series of manuscripts each dealing with a particular ... unit of the vast Macon site.

... Mr. Jennings[, having excavated, and written his Master's thesis on, the Lamar-related Peachtree Mound site in western North Carolina,] hopes he will have to carry on explorations at Lamar and write the wind-up report for this important type village (Jennings 1938a:11).
In August 1938, an adjunct faculty composed of Kelly, Ernst Antevs, Clyde Kluckhohn, and Donovan Senter joined regular faculty members Donald Brand and Florence M. Hawley in conducting the University of New Mexico's field school for advanced and graduate students at Chaco Canyon National Monument (now Chaco Culture National Historical Park).

Kelly had left Macon with the intention of returning to prepare reports on his excavations. The first of the reports that he planned to do was to be on the Swift Creek site. For this reason, Jennings made arrangements for Kelly to have office space adjacent to the laboratory where the materials were stored, and he instructed West to have the Swift Creek data ready for analysis. However, except for brief visits, Kelly was not to return to Macon for six years.

While at Chaco Canyon, Kelly was offered and accepted the position of Assistant Chief, Branch of Historic Sites and Buildings. This Washington Office position also bore the title of Chief, Archeologic Sites Division, and it was this title that Kelly normally used. One of the duties of the position was the inauguration of a nationwide survey of prehistoric sites to determine which were of national archeological significance. It was in this way that Kelly later obtained National Park Service funding to assist with large-scale archeological research projects such as the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Survey (Phillips et al. 1951:v-vi) and the Florida Gulf Coast Survey (Willey 1949:xxi).

On September 15, Willey left Macon. Two days later he was married to Katherine Whaley (a Macon resident) in Selma, Alabama; and, after a brief honeymoon, they continued on to New Orleans where he was to head the Louisiana State University-WPA archeological laboratory. Ford was the director of this project.

In late October, a National Park Service Recreation Study team issued a report recommending that the recently purchased Kolomoki Mounds be developed by the State of Georgia as a park. This report contained a 4-page statement on the archeological significance of the site which was prepared by Jennings. In this he noted that 90 per cent of the pottery in surface collections was Swift Creek; however, he also mentioned the presence of a small percentage of a pottery type which he called Coles Creek -- Weeden Island types not having been defined at that time. Interestingly enough, he recommended "... that Kolomoki not be excavated now, because ... [of the] present state of knowledge ..., but ... [instead that it] be held by the state as a reserve monument and in forty or fifty years ... [that it] be excavated by a competent student ..." (Jennings 1938b).

Willey's replacement as CCC Senior Foreman Archeologist was Charles H. Fairbanks, who had been assistant to the field supervisor, Charles H. Nash, on the University of Tennessee-Tennessee Valley Authority Hiwassee Island excavations. He arrived very shortly after Willey's departure and was immediately placed over the laboratory which then had a staff of 35. Because of the vast collections which had accumulated during the almost five years of excavations, the necessity of emphasizing laboratory research was recognized.
The second Southeastern Archaeological Conference was held November 4 through 6, 1938, at the Central Archaeological Laboratory in Birmingham. Jennings was chairman for the meeting, and the major topic discussed was again pottery typology.

On November 10, Jennings received authorization for Fairbanks to begin work on the first of his laboratory research projects, the analysis of the materials from Mound C, Macon Plateau.

The Lamar levee data recovery project, which had begun in the spring of 1938, was halted on January 25, 1939, because of flooding. The crew was temporarily put to work on the Middle Plateau in search of burials for in situ display; but the water receded quickly, and the crew was able to return to Lamar on February 1. Work there continued for the remainder of the year.

The March 9, 1939, Atlanta Journal reported that Congress had approved a budget for a caretaker force at Ocmulgee and quoted Congressman Carl Vinson as stating that $8,760 would provide for the employment of a superintendent, a junior archeologist, a ranger, and a clerk, as well as necessary supplies.

Later that month pottery type descriptions for five Middle Georgia wares were published in the second issue of the News Letter of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. These descriptions, which had been prepared by Jennings and Fairbanks (1939a), were for Swift Creek Complicated Stamped, Lamar Complicated Stamped, Mossy Oak Simple Stamped, Lamar Bold Incised, and Ocmulgee Fields Incised.

At the tenth meeting of the Society for Georgia Archaeology, which was held in Macon on April 14 and 15, 1939, Jennings presented a paper entitled "Recent Excavations at the Lamar Site." This paper was significant in that it was the first to report the finding of Lamar ceramics above Macon Plateau wares in stratigraphic context (Jennings 1939).

Jennings transferred to an Associate Archeologist position on the Natchez Trace Parkway on May 15, 1939. He soon began excavation of the newly established Ackia National Monument (now a Parkway unit designated Chickasaw Village). Artifacts recovered from this and later excavations were returned to Macon for processing and curation.

With Jenning's departure, Lester was again named Acting Superintendent, a position he held until the arrival of John C. Ewers on June 18, 1939. Ewers' interest was largely in museums and interpretation; and, during the nine months he spent as Acting Superintendent, he began preparation of an exhibit plan for the visitor center (1940b).

Beginning in 1936, Renee Kelly (Mrs. Arthur R. Kelly) had devoted much of her free time to developing a scheme for the classification of Swift Creek Complicated
Stamped ceramics on the basis of design motifs. In early July, she spent several days in the laboratory studying the complicated stamped sherds from the Swift Creek site. She was joined for two days by Kelly, who was assembling data for a Swift Creek site report.

During that month, Fairbanks visited Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Georgia, to conduct a preliminary investigation of areas which were to be archeologically explored by the park superintendent in search of Civil War earthworks. He also completed a first draft of a report on Mound C. The fourth Southeastern Archeological Conference, which was held at Ocmulgee on November 10 and 11, was chaired by J. Joe Finkelstein (who later changed his name to J. Joseph Bauxar). "This meeting inaugurated the ... [partially completed] Museum building and covered new developments on the local archaeological scene" (Williams 1960:3).

At the end of 1939, Ewers listed the supervisory park staff as follows:

- John C. Ewers, Acting Superintendent (Field Curator, Public Works Administration, or PWA).
- Charles H. Fairbanks, Senior Foreman, Archeologist (CCC).
- John T. West, General Foreman (Emergency Relief Administration, or ERA).
- Benjamin L. Bryan, Project Supervisor (ERA).
- James H. Jackson, General Foreman (ERA).

West, who was laboratory supervisor, and Jackson, who was a talented artist as well as field supervisor, had both worked at Ocmulgee for several years. Bryan was in charge of the guides who interpreted the park to the public and prepared a manual for their use (Bryan 1940).

The data recovery excavations at Lamar continued throughout 1940.

In January 1940, Ewers set up a temporary museum in the completed basement portion of the visitor center. It consisted primarily of displays of artifacts arranged according to the cultural complexes recognized at that time.

Two months later pottery type descriptions for nine Middle Georgia wares were published in the Southeastern Archeological Conference’s newsletter. These descriptions, also prepared by Jennings and Fairbanks (1940), were for Bibb Plain, Halstead Plain, Macon Thick, Hawkins Fabric Marked, McDougal Plain, Dunlap Fabric Marked, Napier Complicated Stamped, Kasita Red Filmed, and Walnut Roughened. At that time these wares, together with the five previously published Middle Georgia types (Jennings and Fairbanks 1939a) and three types -- Deptford Simple Stamped, Deptford Linear Check Stamped, and Deptford Bold Check Stamped -- which had been described by Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring (1939a: 1939b), were all the ceramic wares recognized in the Macon area. Later that month, on March 24, William W. Luckett was named as the first Superintendent of Ocmulgee. However, Ewers stayed on in Macon for three months...
in order to complete the visitor center exhibit plan (Ewers 1940a).

On April 2, Fairbanks, accompanied by Ewers and Linton Solomon, visited the Jackson site in Monroe County, Georgia. This late protohistoric or historic Ocmulgee Fields site had been tested the previous month by a field crew working under Sam Price, one of two field supervisors assisting Robert Wauchope in the University of Georgia-WPA archeological survey of Northern Georgia (Wauchope 1966:417-419, 470-471). Five days later, Superintendent Luckett, Dr. Harrold, Solomon, and Wauchope accompanied Fairbanks in a visit to the Turnbull site in Stephens County, Georgia, which is believed to be the site of the historic Cherokee town of Tugalo.

Toward the end of the month, Fairbanks completed a study of the Macon Plateau period earthlodge and, based on this, delivered a paper on "The Macon Earthlodge" at the fifth meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, which was held in Indianapolis on April 25 and 26.

Nine days after the meeting, on May 5, Fairbanks and Solomon inspected the Hartford Mound site near Hawkinsville, in Pulaski County, Georgia. Later Fairbanks reported that the mound and village site had been completely destroyed by a WPA road-building project but that he had collected artifacts from the road fill which "... consisted principally of Swift Creek sherds and large numbers of heavily patinated flints" (1940j).

It was also during the month of May that the laboratory was moved from the basement of the Macon Municipal Auditorium to the basement of the visitor center. The building was then almost 40 percent completed.

Beginning in June, Willey and Richard B. Woodbury, who were conducting an archeological survey of the Florida Gulf Coast under joint Columbia University-National Park Service sponsorship, used the laboratory as a base for their operations. All of the materials which they collected (some 25,544 items) were processed and catalogued by the laboratory (Willey and Woodbury 1942:232 Footnote).

At the annual Society for Georgia Archaeology meeting, which was held in Athens, Georgia, on June 14 and 15, both Fairbanks and Ewers gave papers. Fairbanks' paper was entitled "The Lamar Palisade" (1940e); Ewers', "Interpreting Archeology to the Public" (1940b).

During the months of June and July, Fairbanks visited and/or prepared reports on the Lawson Field (or Kasita), Ennis (or Oconee Town), Turnbull Mound, Bussey Plantation, Abercrombie Mound, Rock Landing, and Neisler Mound sites for the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. As indicated earlier, this nationwide survey of historic and prehistoric sites was a function of the Branch of Historic Sites and Buildings of which Kelly was Assistant Chief in charge of archeological investigations.
Jennings spent the first two weeks of July in the Ocmulgee laboratory sorting materials from his survey along the Natchez Trace Parkway. Later that month Wauchope brought some 30 bags of material from the Kolomoki Mounds to the laboratory for processing and cataloguing.

Willey and Woodbury, having completed their Gulf Coast survey, spent the last two weeks of August at Ocmulgee analyzing the materials they had collected in preparation for writing a report on their findings (1942).

Fairbanks carried out limited stratigraphic testing at Stallings Island in the Savannah River during September 1940 (1941e, 1942). It was also that month when Wauchope left the University of Georgia to accept a position at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to leaving, he arranged for the collections from his Northern Georgia survey to be stored temporarily at Ocmulgee. They were delivered to the park in mid-December. Albert C. Spaulding was there at that time to discuss the classification of northern Mississippi ceramics with Fairbanks and to study the collections from the investigations which he (as State Supervisor of the Natchez Trace Parkway-WPA Archeological Survey from August 1940 through May 1941) and Jennings were conducting on the Parkway. Later that month Fairbanks was named Junior Archeologist, National Park Service, with duty station at Ocmulgee National Monument.

On February 8, 1941, Fairbanks and Evelyn Adams Timmerman (a Macon resident) were married. "On their wedding day, Fairbanks was called on to give a tour of Ocmulgee to ... Margaret Mead, who happened to be in the area" (Wilson and Deagan 1985:4).

In mid-March, Fairbanks carried out an archeological salvage project involving two Kolomoki site mounds which had been badly damaged by construction (Fairbanks 1941a). While there, he visited the Singer (later known as Singer-Moye) site in Stewart County, Georgia, which he described as a 20-acre Lamar aspect site containing four domiciliary and one low domed mound.

Field work at Lamar under Jackson's supervision continued until the latter part of March. Then the crew was put to work in the Trading Post area on the Middle Plateau in a search for historic Indian burials suitable for in situ exhibits. This work continued into August.

The CCC Senior Foreman, Archeologist position vacated by Fairbanks was filled on April 16 by Karl Schmitt. Initially he was put to work transcribing the Creek Trading House Letter Book (Mattison n.d., 1946), but he was soon assigned to preparing a report on the Lamar stockade excavations.

During the stockade excavations, it had been determined that the Lamar site extended well beyond the Monument boundaries. On June 13, 1941, following the donation of five acres which encompassed the remainder of the site, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a proclamation which added that property to
Ocmulgee National Monument.

Excavation of that portion of the stockade included in the newly acquired property began on August 19, 1941, and continued until October 20. Within that period, exhibit shelters for three burials were completed on the Middle Plateau, work was begun on an exhibit shelter to protect the profile of Mound C, and Fairbanks presented papers on Stallings Island and Lamar at the sixth Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Lexington, Kentucky (September 4-5).

All ERA work was halted at Ocmulgee in November 1941; but CCC work continued. Even after December 7, work on the Mound C shelter continued; however, very little was done because the CCC enrollees were being assigned to defense related jobs.

In January and February 1942, there was no work done on the Mound C shelter because almost all CCC camp enrollees were involved in the construction of Camp Wheeler, a large Army camp located on the uplands roughly one mile east of the Lamar site. The Swift Creek site was included in the camp, and the installation of munitions dumps there destroyed all of Mound B and more than half of Mound A.

On February 3, Fairbanks, Schmitt, and Linton Solomon conducted a survey of the Keelings Camp site in Houston County -- the site with the Weeden Island component which Kelly could not get permission to test in 1937. They collected over 380 sherds, the majority of which were plain. These plain sherds, some of which had notably thick rims, were associated with Swift Creek Complicated Stamped, Napier Complicated Stamped, check stamped, and simple stamped ceramics as well as two unfamiliar types. One was described as aberrant incised; the other, as fingernail punctated. (The thick-rimmed, incised, and punctated sherds were later recognized as Weeden Island pottery types.)

Seven days later, a charter was granted to the Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation, a cooperative association for the Monument which was organized for scientific, literary, and educational purposes. Charter members were: Linton Solomon, Dr. Harrold, General Harris, Hugh H. Hill, Lee S. Trimble, Superintendent Luckett, and Fairbanks.

In March, the CCC camp was totally removed from Park Service jurisdiction; and Schmitt, who had been working on plans for reconstruction of the Lamar palisade (a project to be undertaken at the end of the war), resigned.

Fairbanks, who had spent the first two months of the year writing an interpretive statement and an archeological narrative for the park Master Plan, wrote at this time: "Archeological development has reached a complete and profound standstill for the duration."

Nevertheless, with three CCC enrollees on loan from the Soil Conservation Service to act as park guides, he found time in April to transcribe George Stiggin's
manuscript on Creek history and tradition as well as overseeing all park interpretive activities.

May was a completely different situation. No CCC enrollees were available; and the park staff consisted of but two people, Luckett and Fairbanks.

In June, Fairbanks began a study of historic Creek ceramics, but most of his time was devoted to patrols, public contact, janitorial and custodial activities, and administrative duties.

This situation continued for the remainder of the year, although it was alleviated somewhat by the assignment of a clerk to the park staff. Until her retirement as Administrative Assistant some 29 years later, the clerk, Mrs. Lois T. Holst, supplied valuable administrative support, assisted with interpretation when needed, served as a liaison with the local community, and provided a much needed thread of continuity for a constantly changing park staff.

The staffing situation did not improve in 1943. For this reason, Fairbanks was unable to undertake any serious research prior to his enlistment in the Army in March.

The title of Luckett’s position was changed from Superintendent to Custodian in March 1943. In October 1944, he was appointed Acting Superintendent of Salem Maritime National Historic Site in Massachusetts; and Kelly, who had been Superintendent of Salem Maritime since July 1943 (when most Park Service personnel were moved out of Washington), was appointed Custodian of Ocmulgee. At that time the Ocmulgee staff consisted of the Custodian, one laborer, one ranger for a six-month period, and one clerk for seven months (Marsh 1986:24).

The following spring, Kelly used soldiers from the Educational Reconditioning Hospital at Camp Wheeler as field crew in testing the Jessup’s Bluff site, a Swift Creek site located on the Walnut Creek bluffs within park boundaries (Kelly 1945). Park laborer James A. Herndon, who had been a foreman at the Napier site excavations in 1935, served as crew chief.

In October 1945, historian Ray H. Mattison was assigned to the park. He made a study of the Creek Trading House, which was in operation from 1795 until 1816 (Mattison 1946) and, based on evidence now available, almost certainly was located on the Macon Plateau for a portion of that time. In part, Mattison’s study was based on the Creek Trading House Letter Book transcription done by Schmitt in 1941.

Fairbanks was discharged from the Army in January 1946, and returned to Macon. He remained there until March 18, when he entered on duty at Fort Frederica National Monument, where he was to serve both as Superintendent and Archeologist until September 1948.
Willey was visiting in Macon during the time that Fairbanks was there; and they, together with Kelly, inspected the site of the largely destroyed Leake Mounds near Cartersville, Georgia. While in the area they made a study of artifacts recovered from the mounds by Pat Wofford, Jr., an Atco, Georgia, amateur archeologist. Because of the Deptford-like simple stamped and check stamped ceramics and other artifacts with Middle Woodland characteristics, they concluded that the mounds were related to Adena-Hopewell (Fairbanks et al. 1946).

Later in the spring, Robert Wauchope, then the Director of the Middle American Research Institute at Tulane University, made arrangements with Kelly to spend time at Ocmulgee reviewing the collections from the Northern Georgia WPA archeological survey. These collections had been in storage since Wauchope left Georgia in 1940.

Jesse Jennings, who was still the Natchez Trace Parkway archeologist, spent June 2-16 in the Ocmulgee laboratory analyzing materials which had been recovered on the Parkway. He was followed by Wauchope, who spent two months at the park in sorting and recording so as to be able to reduce the tons of artifacts to an amount which could be shipped to New Orleans (Wauchope 1966:ix, xii).

For the remainder of the year and into 1947, Kelly worked on a report on the Swift Creek site (Kelly and Smith 1975). During this period, he also revised his doctoral dissertation for publication (Kelly 1947). In late June 1947, Kelly submitted his resignation from the Park Service to become effective as of September 1 (Marsh 1986:42). As of that date he became Chairman of the newly established Department of Anthropology at the University of Georgia.

Mrs. Holst served as Acting Superintendent until October 28, 1947, when M. Dean Guy entered on duty as Superintendent. He was to remain in that position until June 1955.

John M. Corbett, then heading the Natchez Trace archeological laboratory, visited Ocmulgee in early March 1948 in order to study artifacts from the Parkway which were in storage there and to discuss Southeastern pottery classification with Fairbanks, who came up from Fort Frederica for that purpose. Later that month the archeological collections from Jennings' work on the Trace (1939-1946) were transferred to that area at the request of John L. Cotter, who was then senior Parkway archeologist.

During that summer, the temporary shelters over the historic Creek burials on the Middle Plateau were replaced with permanent structures of concrete and glass.
1949-1955

The Federal budget for fiscal year 1950 contained Park Service appropriations for structural improvements and rehabilitation but none for museum construction. However, pressures applied by the Ocmulgee Auxiliary Corporation through Congressman Carl Vinson and Senators Walter George and Richard Russell convinced the Service that the Ocmulgee visitor center's completion could be considered as rehabilitation; and $135,000 was set aside for that purpose. The contract for construction was let June 2, 1950 (Marsh 1986:35).

With completion of the museum building a certainty, the necessity of updating the museum exhibit plans prepared by John Ewers in 1940 was recognized; and the Service's Chief Historian, Ronald F. Lee, asked Jesse Jennings (by then at the University of Utah) to come to Washington to assist with the revision. The revised plan was completed in mid-April (Jesse Jennings, personal communication 1988).

Two months later, Fairbanks, who had spent two school years at the University of Michigan during which he received a Master's degree and completed the course work required for a doctorate, was re-employed by the Park Service. He was assigned to the Museum Laboratory in Washington, D.C., where for one year he acted as technical advisor in the planning and production of exhibits for the Ocmulgee visitor center (Wilson and Deagan 1985:6). In at least one instance (the sculpture of the Indian carrying a basketload of earth up the side of the mound), he also served as a model (Evelyn T. Fairbanks, personal communication 1983).

In early 1951, with the visitor center and the exhibits which it would house well on their way to completion, increased visitation and a greater need for interpretation were foreseen. Largely to fill this need, two archeologist positions were established. One was a park archeologist position; the other, a Regional Office position with duty station at the park.

Gustavus D. Pope, Jr., entered on duty in the park archeologist position on April 6, 1951; and Fairbanks was assigned to the Regional Office position on June 22. Besides supervising public contact, Fairbanks was to oversee the installation of the new exhibits, to begin writing reports on the prewar park excavations, and to carry out archeological investigations at other Region One (now Southeast Region) parks when needed.

The building was completed in June, and the exhibit installation began soon afterward. On November 2, 1951, the visitor center museum was officially opened. It contained 48 exhibits. These consisted of general introductory cases on archeology as well as detailed exhibits on the Indian cultures which had lived within the park. Opening ceremonies included dancing and an exhibition stick ball game by Creek Indians from Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Ten days after the museum opening, Fairbanks began excavation at the Hawkins
and Davison house sites at Fort Frederica National Monument. This project continued until mid-February (Fairbanks 1956b). Artifacts recovered from these sites were then taken to Ocmulgee "... for study and restoration ..." (Myrick 1952).

During the month of October 1952, Fairbanks carried out archeological testing at Fort Caroline National Historical Park (now Fort Caroline National Memorial) near Jacksonville, Florida. He found a considerable amount of artifactual evidence for St. Johns Town, the short-lived English town to which many Loyalists from other colonies fled during the Revolutionary War but abandoned once Florida was returned to Spain. However, he did not find any structural or artifactual evidence for the sixteenth century French fort (Fairbanks 1952a).

The ninth Southeastern Archaeological Conference was held October 31 through November 1, 1952, at Ocmulgee with Fairbanks as chairman. The topic for the conference was archeology of the historic southeastern tribes. Pope gave a paper on the archeology of the Creeks of Ocmulgee Old Fields (1953); and Fairbanks spoke on Lamar as being protohistoric Creek (1953a).

From February 23 through May 1, 1953, Fairbanks carried out a series of excavations at Fort Frederica National Monument. Among the features investigated were the towngate; the barracks; the main cross street; and the parade, parapet, moat, storehouse, and northeast bastion of the fort (Fairbanks 1953b).

The duty station of National Park Service Region One employee Joseph R. Caldwell had been the University of Georgia while he was working on the Hartwell Reservoir (now Lake Hartwell) archeological survey. However, it was changed to Ocmulgee on March 15, 1953, with the beginning of archeological salvage on the Jim Woodruff Reservoir (now Lake Seminole) in southwestern Georgia. Following the change, he completed a brief report on the archeological resources of the Hartwell Reservoir (1953) and defined the Old Quartz Industry of Piedmont Georgia and South Carolina in a paper given at the tenth Southeastern Archaeological Conference, which was held in Chapel Hill, North Carolina (1954).

Beginning on October 13 and continuing through November 8, 1953, Fairbanks carried out excavations at Buford Reservoir (now Lake Sidney Lanier) site 9-Hl-64, the Booger Bottom Mound site (Caldwell, Thompson, and Caldwell 1952) in Hall County, Georgia. His report on the site was completed shortly thereafter (Fairbanks 1954b).

By that time, Caldwell had completed the field work on the Jim Woodruff Reservoir sites and returned to Ocmulgee to analyze the materials recovered and to prepare a report on his findings. He continued work on this report for the remainder of the time he spent at the park (Caldwell 1978).

During early 1954, Fairbanks completed his doctoral dissertation, which was on the excavation of Mound C (1954a), and revised it for publication in the Park Service's
archeological research series (1956a). Final revision of the latter manuscript was completed in March.

Fairbanks then turned to the analysis of the collections from the Trading Post area. His initial examination of the ceramics showed a strong minority of trade wares which appeared to be about equally divided between Spanish majolica and English delft and salt glazed stone wares. It seems likely that he informed John Goggin of the majolica, as Goggin was accumulating data on majolica in the New World at that time (Goggin 1968:78-79). Although Fairbanks was never to complete the Trading Post study, he later encouraged one of his students to undertake it (Mason 1963a).

Kelly spent considerable time at Ocmulgee that spring working on a report on the excavations which had been initiated at Mound D on the North Plateau in 1934 (Kelly 1965).

In June Fairbanks supervised the removal of the never completed Mound C exhibit shelter and the restructuring of the mound (Fairbanks 1954d); and in July Pope began work on an interpretive handbook intended for sale at the park.

A Mossy Oak period bundle burial was removed from the Central of Georgia Railroad right-of-way north of Macon by Pope and Caldwell in early August. This site was found and reported by Macon amateur archeologist John T. Pellew, who still retains the materials from it.

On August 26, 1954, Fairbanks resigned from the Service to accept a position as Assistant Professor in Florida State University's Department of Anthropology.

Caldwell was transferred from the Region One Office to Ocmulgee on September 26, 1954; and on October 1, he was assigned to public contact for two days out of each week. The following February, he conducted a surface survey of the W. H. Browne Tract, which is located near Fort Caroline National Memorial and which, at that time, was being considered for addition to the park.

Pope completed the final draft of the Ocmulgee handbook on March 12, 1955, and resigned from the National Park Service on March 21.

Caldwell resigned on April 30 to begin investigation of the Rood's Landing site in Stewart County, Georgia under the auspices of the Columbus Museum of Arts and Crafts, Columbus, Georgia (Caldwell 1955; Frank Schnell, personal communication 1987). His replacement, Joel L. Shiner, who had been working in historical archeology at Colonial National Historical Park in Virginia, arrived at Ocmulgee in late May.

Shortly thereafter, on June 6, Guy, who had spent seven and one-half years as Superintendent at Ocmulgee, transferred to Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. Albert Dillahunty, a Park Service historian at Fredericksburg and
Spotsylvania National Military Park, Virginia, served as Acting Superintendent until June 25, when Louis R. Caywood, who had been at Colonial National Historical Park, entered on duty as Superintendent.

In July, one of four Society for American Archaeology seminars dealing with archeological problems of a broad theoretical nature was held at Harvard University with Gordon R. Willey as chairman. Its topic was the classification of culture contact situations. Eight types were recognized, with the clearest example of one type -- site-unit intrusion resulting in fusion with dominance of the resident culture -- being the Macon Plateau culture. However, it was noted that this classification was "admittedly arbitrary," since in the resulting Lamar culture "there is more of Middle Mississippi [the invading culture] in the settlement patterns and subsistence patterns and more of Swift Creek [the resident culture] in the pottery style" (Willey et al. 1956:12).

Some three months later, Shiner, as the senior park archeologist, served as chairman for the twelfth Southeastern Archeological Conference, the first of nine to be held in Macon and hosted by the park archeologist on an every-other-year schedule. The topic for the meeting, which was held October 21-22, 1955, was Early Woodland cultures.

On October 25, 1955, Jackson W. Moore, Jr., entered on duty in the junior archeologist position, transferring from Chaco Canyon National Monument (now Chaco Culture National Historical Park) in New Mexico.

1956-1960

In 1956, both Fairbanks' report on Archeology of the Funeral Mound and Pope's handbook, Ocmulgee, were published and placed on sale at the park visitor center (Fairbanks 1956a, Pope 1956). Fairbanks' type description of Ocmulgee Check Stamped pottery also was published that year (1956d).

Jesse Jennings' review of Fairbanks' Funeral Mound monograph proved to be prophetic in its recognition that "... the most valuable portion of the publication ... [is] a statement of the chronology of the Macon Plateau archeological manifestations" (1957:94), for, with the exception of filling in the Early and Middle Archaic gap, there have been but few cultural or chronological changes in its basic structure.

Carol A. Irwin (now Carol Irwin Mason) began work at Ocmulgee as a part-time tour leader on June 14. Her interest in the park had been whetted while working on a Master's degree at Florida State University under Fairbanks, and she planned to write her dissertation at the University of Michigan on Creek acculturation as evidenced by the Ocmulgee Fields village site which was associated with the Colonial Trading Post.
Shiner transferred to Fort Frederica on July 29 to carry out further excavations; and the senior park archeologist position remained unfilled until Wilfred D. Logan, who transferred from Effigy Mounds National Monument in Iowa, entered on duty on October 7. This was one week after Carol Irwin had returned to school and almost two months before William Bromberg began work at the park as Seasonal Ranger-Archeologist.

For a three-month period beginning March 30, 1957, Moore conducted excavations at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Virginia, and at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Virginia-Tennessee-Kentucky. At the former, he excavated the wings of the Clover Hill Tavern and the cellar stairs of the Plunkett-Meeks Store; at the latter, he investigated the Cumberland Gap Iron Foundry and searched unsuccessfully for the site of the Davis Tavern (Moore n.d.).

Bromberg transferred from the park on June 25, 1957; and Irwin returned on July 5. She left in September.

On August 25, Moore transferred to Fort Frederica to assist Shiner with the excavations there. Three days later, Rex L. Wilson replaced Moore as junior park archeologist.

The fourteenth Southeastern Archaeological Conference was held at Ocmulgee November 1-2, 1957, with James B. Griffin as program chairman and Logan in charge of local arrangements. The theme of this meeting was historical archeology and the De Soto dateline.

During the mid-fifties, plans to construct an interstate highway (Interstate 16) from Macon to Savannah were the subject of public meetings. On November 15, 1957, Caywood informed the Southeast Regional Office that the plans called for the road to cross the park; but the Service made no public comment concerning it (Marsh 1986:44-45).

On July 5, 1958, Carol Irwin returned to the park as part-time tour leader, working a three-day week and spending four days on research. She resigned on September 6, but remained in Macon working full-time on her dissertation until December 9 (Mason 1963a).

Wilson transferred to Fort Union National Monument on September 7, 1958; and Logan, who had completed his dissertation while at Ocmulgee (1959), transferred to the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings in the Washington Office in December. The primary duty of this position was the continuation of the nationwide survey of prehistoric sites which was begun by Kelly in 1938.

Robert T. Bray, who transferred from Effigy Mounds National Monument, entered on duty in the senior park archeologist position on December 15; and John W. Walker began work for the Park Service in the junior park archeologist position on December 29.
During the spring of 1959, members of the Macon Archeological Society began the excavation of a small log town house on Browns Mount under the direction of Bray, Richard A. Marshall (then Director of the Macon Youth Museum), and Walker. This excavation produced the first radiocarbon date for the Early Mississippian Macon Plateau period: 970 +/- 150 BP, or A.D. 980 (Salter 1960; Crane and Griffin 1962; Marshall 1971).

Bray resigned from the Service on September 17, 1959 to accept the position of Archeological Field School Director with the University of Missouri.

The sixteenth Southeastern Archaeological Conference was held at Ocmulgee on November 13-14, 1959, with Stephen Williams as program chairman and Caywood, Walker, and Marshall as hosts. The discussion topic for the meeting was ceramic classification.

1960-1962

Caywood accepted a transfer to the Southwest Archeological Center in Globe, Arizona, and left the park on December 14, 1960. Walker was named Acting Superintendent pending arrival of a newly appointed Superintendent.

Albert Dillahunty entered on duty as Superintendent on January 27, 1961, and very soon found himself embroiled in the Interstate 16 controversy.

By the middle of March, the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the National Park Service were receiving letters opposed to the proposed routing of the Interstate through the park. These letters, which were from members of the Society for American Archeology who had been contacted by Macon archeologists, were influential in getting the Service to take a stand against the route.

This stand was very unpopular on both a local and a Congressional level; and in May the Service attempted to justify it by presenting the historical, archeological, and ecological importance of the Ocmulgee bottoms, which was the area that the proposed route would cross (Walker 1961). In July, and again in August, the Service put forth alternate route proposals, one of which would have destroyed both the McDougald and Dunlap Mounds; but these were to no avail.

On September 8, 1961, a final decision was reached in a meeting between Congressman Carl Vinson (who introduced the original legislation for the park), a Bureau of Public Roads official, and Park Service Director Conrad Wirth: Interstate 16 would cross the Macon Plateau section of the park but would run a little nearer the Ocmulgee River than originally proposed (Marsh 1986:47-48). At this meeting it was also agreed that the park area which would be disturbed by construction would be archeologically salvaged. Later, an agreement was reached with the Georgia Department of Transportation which would allow the Park Service
to spend up to $600,000 of Federal Highway funds for data recovery.

Wilfred D. Logan, who had been senior park archeologist from 1956-1958, was chosen to head the project; and he, in turn, chose the field and laboratory supervisors. They were: Jackson W. Moore, Jr., who had been the junior park archeologist from 1955 until 1957 and was then engaged in historical archeology at Independence National Historical Park, and J. Earl Ingmanson, who was park archeologist at Effigy Mounds National Monument in Iowa. C. Fred Bohannon, who was at Montezuma Castle National Monument in Arizona; Charles B. Voll, who was at Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in Arizona, and Walker were selected as field crew chiefs.

For guidance in planning and carrying out the excavations, the Service established an Ocmulgee Advisory Committee, which was composed of: J. O. Brew, Harvard University; James A. Ford, American Museum of Natural History; Frank H. H. Roberts, Jr., Smithsonian Institution; George I. Quimby, Chicago Museum of Natural History; and Stephen Williams, Harvard University (Davis 1962). The committee met at Ocmulgee preceding the eighteenth Southeastern Archaeological Conference which was held there on November 28-29, 1961. The Southeastern Conference was followed by the second Conference on Historic Site Archaeology on November 30. Walker served as local arrangements chairman and host for both.

By the end of the conferences, most of the project archeologists had arrived at the park. However, because of illness, Logan was unable to travel; and the project was directed in succeeding months by John M. Corbett, Chief Archeologist of the Park Service; Carroll Burroughs, Assistant Chief; and John W. Griffin, Southeast Regional Archeologist. Assisting with the interpretation of rather complex alluvial deposits was Oliver J. Cosner, U.S. Geological Survey (Cosner 1973).

The research unit, which was officially called the Archeological Research Unit, was housed in the basement of the Ocmulgee visitor center, the space which had been intended for that purpose when the building was designed.

Work began on December 5, 1961, and continued through June 29, 1962. The average number of laborers employed was about 54, or 18 men per crew; and some 75 test units were dug. Almost all of the tests began as 20- by 20-foot units which were stepped into 10- by 10-foot units at a depth of 6 feet. Many of the units were more than 10 feet deep.

The project produced valuable archeological data relative to the area. Most important was a stratified projectile point sequence beginning with fluted points and containing both Early and Middle Archaic types not previously found in situ on the park (Griffin 1964a, Nelson et al. 1974). Although not as clear, there was also a relatively good ceramic sequence which indicated that the Etowah Complicated Stamped wares either post-dated the Macon Plateau wares or were introduced near the end of their usage and that there was a fairly heavy Lamar occupation of the bottoms in contrast to almost none on the plateau.
Unfortunately, much of this had not been learned by April 28, 1962, when the Ocmulgee Advisory Committee met again, and its recommendation that the project be closed down at the end of June was accepted without question.

At the close of the project, it was hoped that it would be possible to continue operation of the Archeological Research Unit by having the unit archeologists carry out needed fieldwork on parks throughout the Southeast Region and return to Ocmulgee for analysis and report writing. Although Voll was transferred to the Ruins Stabilization Unit at the Southwest Archeological Center in Globe, Arizona in keeping with his request, the others remained in the Southeast Region. Ingmanson went to Russell Cave National Monument in Alabama as assistant to Griffin in excavations there (Griffin 1964b, 1974); Moore went to Fort Smith National Historic Site in Arkansas to archeologically investigate the structural and artifactual evidence for the fort (Moore 1963); Bohannon also went to Arkansas where he conducted salvage excavations at the Mineral Springs site in the Millwood Reservoir (Bohannon 1973); and Walker went to Appomattox Court House National Historical Park in Virginia, where he excavated two dependencies of the McLean House, the Jail, and a considerable length of fence line including one section of rail fence (Walker 1963).

Of the group, only Ingmanson and Walker returned to Ocmulgee after completion of fieldwork; and Walker left Macon on December 31, 1961, having accepted the archeologist position in the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings which Logan had held.

1963-1965

Throughout 1963, as time allowed, park tour leader Bernard Berg transcribed an unpublished letter book kept from May 1798 to July 1801 by Benjamin Hawkins, the Creek Indian agent. The letter book which was on loan from Independence National Historic Park had been donated in 1876 to Independence Hall, then owned by the city of Philadelphia.

Ingmanson spent most of 1963 in processing and classifying the cultural materials from Russell Cave and in the initiation of a study of the stratigraphic distribution of the artifacts (Griffin 1974:ix).

A charcoal specimen from the Macon Plateau Earthlodge was submitted for radiocarbon dating in the summer of 1963 by Rex L. Wilson, former Ocmulgee staff member who was then assistant to Southeast Regional Archeologist Griffin. It yielded a date of A.D. 1015 (935 +/- 110 B.P.), which closely agreed with the A.D. 980 (970 +/- 150 B.P.) date from the Browns Mount small log townhouse (Wilson 1964).

The twentieth Southeastern Archaeological Conference and the fourth Conference
on Historic Site Archaeology were held in Macon on October 31-November 2, 1963. Local arrangements were made by Ingmanson and park archeologist Edward D. Jahns, who had transferred to Ocmulgee in May 1962 from Chaco Canyon National Monument (now Chaco Culture National Historical Park).

In February 1964, Jahns accepted the position of Curator in the Service's Western Museum Laboratory and left for San Francisco. His replacement as park archeologist was George R. Fischer, who entered on duty on April 5, 1964, having transferred from Montezuma Castle National Monument in Arizona.

During that year, Ingmanson worked on reports covering the 1930s excavations of the South Plateau (including Mounds A and B) and the Dunlap and McDougall Mounds (1964a, 1964b). He also conducted an archeological survey of a reservoir on Tobesofkee Creek (Ingmanson 1964c).

At the twenty-first Southeastern Archaeological Conference, which was held in New Orleans on November 6-7, Kelly gave a paper on the prehistoric cultivated field under Mound D at Ocmulgee (Kelly 1965).

The following June, Ingmanson completed a report on Mound E and the fortification trenches on the Middle Plateau (Ingmanson 1965). Between that time and his transfer to Mesa Verde National Park in September, he and Fischer completed a study of Archaic projectile points and other lithic materials which had been collected from the Alligator Pond site in Dooly County, Georgia, by Mrs. Travis Grubbs of Warner Robins, Georgia (Ingmanson and Fischer 1966).

It should be noted that it was not uncommon for professional archeologists to visit Ocmulgee when in the general area. For example, among those who visited the museum during the 12-month period ending June 30, 1965, were: Charles H. Fairbanks, University of Florida; E. Mott Davis, University of Texas; Lewis H. Larson, Jr., Georgia State University; David S. Phelps, Florida State University; Melvin L. Fowler, Southern Illinois University; James A. Ford, American Museum of Natural History; R. Stuart Neitzel, Mississippi State Historical Museum; James A. Brown, University of Oklahoma; and David J. Hally, Harvard University graduate student, who spent several days studying collections from Lower Mississippi Valley sites on the Natchez Trace Parkway.

Fischer hosted the sixth Conference on Historic Site Archaeology and the twenty-second Southeastern Archaeological Conference, which were held at the park on November 11, 12, and 13, 1965. Some 125 persons were in attendance.

1966-1972

After several years of fruitless discussion and failed plans, the Southeast Archeological Center became reality on October 17, 1966, with the arrival at
Ocmulgee of Richard D. Faust, who had transferred from the Chief Archeologist's Office in Washington. He was followed one week later by Walker, who had transferred from the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. Faust was to oversee the River Basin Salvage Program for the Southeast Region; and Walker, archeological research in the park areas. John Griffin, who was on academic leave at the University of Chicago, was to enter on duty as Center Chief in June 1967. In the interim, Walker served as Acting Center Chief.

Fischer left Ocmulgee on November 20, 1966, having accepted the archeologist's position in the Chief Archeologist's office which Faust had vacated; and on December 3, Dillahunty transferred to Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Pennsylvania as Chief Interpreter.

Mrs. Holst served as Acting Superintendent until January 15, 1967, when C. Fred Bohannon, who had been conducting archeological investigations on the Natchez Trace Parkway since June 1963 (and who earlier had worked at Ocmulgee with the Archeological Research Unit), entered on duty as Superintendent.

In February 1967, Faust and Walker accompanied Arthur R. Kelly on a visit to the Swift Creek site. Kelly, who had not seen the site since before World War II, was pleased to find that it had not been totally destroyed and that, although truncated at four to five feet above ground surface, over one third of Mound A remained undisturbed. He became excited about the possibility of obtaining charcoal samples from the mound for radiocarbon dating; and Faust and Walker promised him that, if the opportunity arose, they would obtain samples for him.

Norman N. Ritchie transferred to Ocmulgee as park archeologist on May 8, 1967. He had previously been at Walnut Canyon National Monument in Arizona.

On May 16, Walker began a five-month investigation of Mound A on the South Plateau. The major purposes of this project were to determine how much erosion had occurred on the mound slopes and to obtain data on mound construction which might prove useful in reconstruction.

Griffin entered on duty as Center Chief on June 19, 1967. His first research efforts were put toward completing a report on the excavations he had conducted at a stratified Archaic site at the Peaks of Otter on the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia prior to taking academic leave.

Work on Mound A ended in mid-October. Among the findings were: erosion was all but imperceptible except where gulleys had been worn by motorcyclists and climbers; there had been a stepped rampway down the east side of the mound at the next to last construction stage, as well as down the north slope; and a curb, similar to that on Mound C, encircled the top of the mound. More importantly, it was found that the ridge on which Mounds A and B were built had been purposely levelled and shaped to form a very regular platform, or terrace, before the mounds were constructed (Walker 1969a).
The eighth Conference on Historic Site Archaeology and the twenty-fourth Southeastern Archaeological Conference were held in Macon from November 9 through 11, 1967. Bohannon, with assistance from the Center staff, handled local arrangements.

April and May 1968, were very busy months for the Center. From April 1 through May 10, Griffin conducted excavations at Bear Lake Mound in Everglades National Park; from April 22 through May 18, Walker excavated the Arkansas Post bank (1840-1863) at Arkansas Post National Memorial (1971a); and from April 25 through May 29, Lee H. Hanson, Jr., on loan from the Chief Archeologist's office, investigated the Water Batteries at Fort Donelson National Military Park (now Fort Donelson National Battlefield).

Beginning on October 28, 1968, and continuing until 10:00 p.m. on November 2, Griffin directed the search for the remains of Osceola, the Seminole warrior who died and was buried at Fort Moultrie in Charleston, South Carolina in 1838. The search was occasioned by the claim of a Florida promoter that he had robbed the grave and taken the remains "home" to Florida. The finding of the skeletal remains without a skull and with a broken clavicle precisely matching that in Osceola's death mask left no doubt as to their identity.

In early March 1969, Walker began spending weekends in supervising the profiling of the remaining section of Mound A at Swift Creek by members of the Middle Georgia Archeological Society. This was done in the hope that charcoal samples might be obtained for radiocarbon dating and that the profiles could be tied into those from the 1930s excavations. Despite the long and careful work of the group (in particular, that of Joseph Murciak, Herbert Orr, James Stephenson, and Virginia Walker) no charcoal samples were found, and it proved impossible to match the profiles with those drawn by the earlier excavators. There was, however, enough agreement between the profiles to make it all but certain that the mound began as a relatively small, low conical which was constructed over a prepared floor.

Lee H. Hanson, Jr., entered on duty as Curator/Archeologist for the Center on June 5, 1969. In early September, he conducted an archeological survey of the Town Creek Watershed Dam 46A on the Natchez Trace Parkway (1969a).

Later that month, Bohannon transferred to the San Francisco Service Center. Prior to leaving he had completed a report on the excavations he had conducted at Pharr Mounds site on the Natchez Trace Parkway and had submitted it for publication (1972).

In mid-October, Joseph A. Murciak of Warner Robins brought a number of Weeden Island sherds to a meeting of the Middle Georgia Archeological Society for identification. A visit to the site, which was on Big Indian Creek in Houston County, Georgia, indicated that it contained no ceramics which might not occur on a Florida Gulf Coast Weeden Island site. However, when shovel testing produced no evidence of cultural deposits below the plowzone, Walker stated that excavation
would not be worthwhile. This failed to discourage Murciak, who, with the owner's permission, began excavating the site using a 10-foot square grid.

The tenth Conference on Historic Site Archeology and the twenty-sixth Southeastern Archaeological Conference were held in Macon on November 13-15, 1969. Griffin served as program chairman for the Southeastern conference, and Hanson presented a paper on pipe stem hole diameter dating at the historic archeology conference (1971b).

W. Pingree Crawford entered on duty as Management Assistant for Ocmulgee National Monument on December 28, 1969. At that time, the administrative functions of the park were placed under the general supervision of the Superintendent of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park; and the interpretive program, under the direction of the Center Chief.

On January 26, 1970, David H. Hannah, who had been conducting archeological projects at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in West Virginia, transferred to the Center as Assistant Curator. He completed a report on his Harpers Ferry excavations later in the year (1970).

During the first half of 1970, Murciak continued work on the Houston County Weeden Island site, which by then had been named the Andrew site for the owner of the property. In all, he excavated some 300 units, or almost 28 ares. Of the more than 150,000 sherds recovered, at least 99 percent were: Weeden Island Plain, Incised, Red, and Zoned Red; Carrabelle Incised and Punctated; Indian Pass Incised; Keith Incised; Tucker Ridge Pinched; Mound Field Net Impress; West Florida Cord Marked; Lochloosa Punctated; New River, Swift Creek, and Napier Complicated Stamped; and Wakulla Check Stamped (only 15 sherds). Sixteen fire/trash pits which extended below the plowzone were uncovered. These contained mussel shell, deer bone, and charred hickory nut shells (Walker and Murciak 1971).

Hanson made a study of gunflints recovered from the Macon Plateau and came to the conclusion that some of them date from the early nineteenth century and that they, along with ceramics and other artifacts of that period, were very likely associated with the Creek Trading House, which historical data seem to indicate was located on the Plateau at that time (1970, 1971a).

In August, Hanson transferred to Fort Stanwix National Monument in Rome, New York, to participate in archeological investigations of the fort.

J. Anderson Comer, a senior at Middlesex School in Concord, Massachusetts, spent from February 6 through March 31, 1971, at the Center marking a study of Macon Thick, a Macon Plateau period pottery type which had been described as a cylindrical jar with vertical walls and a flat base (Jennings and Fairbanks 1940, Fairbanks 1956). Before the seven weeks were over, Comer, who was working under Walker's direction, reconstructed one of the Macon Thick "vessels." It was a conical funnel, much like some of the "juice presses" which were recovered at the
Wickliffe site in western Kentucky (King 1971:97-98, Figure following p. 96).

On March 3, Crawford was named Ocmulgee Superintendent, and the administration of the park was removed from Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park's supervision. Griffin resigned as Center Chief on June 26, 1971; and Faust was named Acting Chief.

The following month, Faust conducted an archeological survey of the proposed Keokee Lake, Lee County, Virginia, in the Jefferson National Forest (Faust 1971).

Walker completed a brief study on known archeological sites in the vicinity of Macon for use by the Georgia Department of Transportation in planning road locations. In making this study, he found that instead of there being only two sites with ceramics generally ascribed to the Macon Plateau period, there were at least seven: (1) the Macon Plateau site (including the Ocmulgee Bottoms, the New Pond site just east of Walnut Creek, and the West Spur, or Drake Field, site across the Central of Georgia tracks from Mound C), (2) the Browns Mount site, (3) the Lamar site, (4) the Scott site to the east of the Macon Plateau, (5) the Mile Track site in Central City Park across the Ocmulgee River from the Macon Plateau, (6) the Willis Farm site at the base of Browns Mount, and (7) the Horseshoe Bend site on the west bank of the Ocmulgee River near Lamar (Walker 1971b). An eighth site which would have been added to the list had ceramics from it been examined at that time is Stubbs Mound site on the west side of Tobsosofkee Creek near its confluence with the Ocmulgee River. However, later studies of these plain Mississippian ceramics suggest they (and similar ceramics from some of the other seven sites) should be placed in an early phase of the Lamar period (Williams 1975).

The twenty-eighth Southeastern Archaeological Conference was held in Macon on November 12-13, 1971, with Faust in charge of local arrangements. Walker gave a paper on the Andrew site (Walker and Murciak 1971) and arranged a display of the artifacts from the site for those interested in seeing them.

Donald L. Crusoe, who was then completing his doctorate at the University of Georgia (1972), was hired as Archeologist/Curator on December 6, 1971.

On the weekend of January 22-23, 1972, Walker, with the assistance of Wayne Shelley of Hawkinsville (who found the site), three members of the Middle Georgia Archeological Society, and eight volunteers from the University of Georgia, recovered some 55 Swift Creek, Weeden Island, and Napier vessels from a pottery deposit on the east side of a low sand burial mound located in Pulaski County, Georgia. Weekend work on the mound, named the Shelley Mound for its finder, continued until June. During that period, it was learned that four other Pulaski County sites with Weeden Island components had been found in 1965 by Jerry Nielsen, then a Georgia State University student. He reported these and two other Weeden Island sites (one each in Treutlen and Wilcox Counties) in a brief report which was given a very limited distribution (Nielsen 1967).
A cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and Florida State University which would move the Archeological Center to the University was signed on April 12, 1972.

Hannah transferred to Russell Cave National Monument in May; and Faust, Walker, and Crusoe moved to Tallahassee with the Center on June 12, 1972.

1973-1986

In January 1973, a contract for the analysis and reporting of the Lamar materials from the 1930s excavations was let to Florida State University, with Hale G. Smith as principal investigator and Crusoe as Contracting Officer's Technical Representative. The report, which was completed in May 1973, was edited by Smith and included sections by Louis D. Tesar, John T. Penman, Marsha A. Chance, James E. Kelley, A. E. Bogan, and Stephen A. Deutschle (Smith 1973a).

A second contract was awarded to Florida State in February of that year. It called for the analysis and preparation of a report on the materials recovered from the Middle Plateau. Smith was again the principal investigator; and Crusoe, the Contracting Officer’s Technical Representative. The major section of the report, which dealt with the ceramics recovered from four control trenches dug in 1935, was prepared by Department of Anthropology graduate students A. Wayne Prokopetz, John T. Penman, and Katherine Gagel, with assistance from Stephen A. Deutschle and Robert C. Wilson (Smith 1973b). Also included in the report were two appendices: a 39-page paper on the Colonial Trading Post which Carol Irwin Mason abridged from her dissertation (Mason 1973, 1963a), and a preliminary analysis of ground stone celts from the area by George Percy, James Ditty, and Jerry Jones (Percy et al. 1973).

In "... recognition of Arthur R. Kelly's important role in furthering the study of Georgia archaeology" during the preceding 39 years, colleagues and former students presented papers on that state's prehistory in a symposium held at the Georgia Academy of Science's 1973 spring meeting in Atlanta (Larson 1975:vii). Three of the five papers were of particular pertinence to Ocmulgee archeological research. These were: "The Woodland Period South of the Fall Line" by Frank T. Schnell (1975:27-36), which included a discussion of then recently reported Weeden Island sites in the Atlantic drainage; "The Mississippi Period" by David J. Hally (1975:37-52), which mentioned that, as would have been expected, the early Mississippi period Macon Plateau ceramics had been recovered in association with Etowah Complicated Stamped wares; and "Lamar and the Creeks: An Old Controversy Revisited" by Margaret Clayton Russell (1975:53-67), which, following a thorough discussion of Lamar and historic Creek ceramics, recommended further research on the problem. Serving as discussant, Joseph R. Caldwell made the point, "That the work at Macon, and later Savannah, was a genuine watershed in Georgia archaeology will be apparent to anyone who will look at Moorehead's Etowah
Papers published only a few years earlier" (1975:68).

At the eighteenth annual Winterthur Conference on American Material Culture, which was also held that spring, Charles H. Fairbanks presented a paper on the cultural significance of Spanish ceramics in colonial America. In this paper he mentioned the occurrence of "... the large jars usually called olive jars ... as far inland as [Ocmulgee] an Indian village dating from about 1685 to 1716 at Macon, Georgia. [Presumably in reference to the Ocmulgee having earlier been under Spanish dominance, he added,] This ... must clearly be the result of trade with Spanish sources" (Fairbanks 1973:142-143).

On June 15, 1973, the Center, in conjunction with the University, held a Lamar symposium based on the report. Faust introduced the symposium and chaired the morning session; Smith chaired the afternoon session and summarized the results. Participants included: Arthur R. Kelly, professor emeritus, University of Georgia; Lewis H. Larson, Jr., Georgia State Archeologist; Ross Morrell, Florida State Archeologist; and Craig Sheldon, West Georgia College, as well as the Center staff and the authors of the report (Faust and Smith 1973).

At the thirtieth Southeastern Archaeological Conference, which was held in Memphis, Tennessee, on October 5-6, 1973, four symposiums were devoted to the research programs of the Southeast Archeological Center. One of these, which was concerned with museum collection studies, included two papers on Ocmulgee archeology: "Lamar, a Study in Museum Salvage Archeology," by Hale G. Smith (1973), and "Some Observations on Mossy Oak," by Thomas J. Padgett (1980).

Carl D. McMurray, then a University of Florida graduate student, spent the latter part of April and the earlier part of May 1974 in an attempt to salvage archeological data from the Swift Creek site. Unfortunately, the remaining portion of Mound A had been bulldozed prior to his arrival, and he was unable to retrieve any meaningful information (McMurray 1974).

Shortly thereafter, Norman Ritchie, who had been park archeologist at Ocmulgee for almost seven years, transferred to Navaho National Monument in Arizona.

At the thirty-ninth meeting of the Society for American Archeology, which was held in Washington, D.C., in early May 1974, Walker presented a paper on the distribution of Weeden Island ceramics in Georgia and Alabama. This paper, an outgrowth of work done at the Andrew and Shelley sites in central Georgia, concluded that Weeden Island ceramics occur in quantity on sites within that portion of the coastal plain extending from the mouth of the Altamaha upstream to the fall line and then westward along the fall line to the Alabama-Mississippi border (Walker 1974).

Two contract reports on Ocmulgee excavations were submitted later that month. One, which was concerned with Mound D and the Earthlodge was prepared by Florida State University graduate students Ben A. Nelson, A. Wayne Prokopetz,

Marsha Chance's master's thesis, which was based on the materials from Holder's 1930s excavations in Glynn County, Georgia (Holder 1938), was submitted in August 1974 (Chance 1974). Crusoe was thesis director.

An analysis of cultural materials recovered from Middle Plateau houses, Prokopetz's master's thesis, was submitted in October 1974 (Prokopetz 1974). It was also directed by Crusoe.

A report by Williams and Joseph N. Henderson on the archeology of the North Plateau which was not covered in the earlier Mound D/Earthlodge report was submitted in November 1974 (Williams and Henderson 1974).

During that year, Stanley South published a paper on the application of the mean ceramic date formula to Spanish majolica from New World archeological sites. The data that he used were based on that compiled by John Goggin and included the Ocmulgee Colonial Trading Post majolica (Goggin 1968:78-79). As South pointed out, the ceramic formula data, 1684.2, was some 18 years earlier than the mid-point of the Ocmulgee Town occupation of the Macon Plateau site, 1690-1715 (South 1974:105). However, the formula data fit rather well with (1) the 1675-1690 dates when the town is known to have been on the Chattahoochee River and in contact with the Spanish, or (2) the majolica having been obtained by the Ocmulgees during the 1704 Creek destruction of the Apalachee mission settlements and thus dating the occupations of the settlements from which the ware was obtained.

On three occasions (November 26-27, December 11-12, and January 21-22) during the winter of 1974-1975, George R. Fischer, former Ocmulgee archeologist, who had transferred to the Center from Washington in late June 1972, monitored earth removal around the reconstructed Earthlodge. This was done in conjunction with waterproofing and installation of climate control equipment.

In early 1975, Williams completed his thesis which was based on data recovered from the Stubbs Mound site in 1936 by Willey, Taylor, Angel, Birdsell, Wagley, and Feng. This study is significant for central Georgia archeology in that it shows that the hiatus postulated by Fairbanks (1956a) between the Macon Plateau and Lamar periods, while apparently true for the Macon Plateau site, does not hold true for Stubbs Mound (Williams 1975).

A report on the analysis of the material culture of the Cowarts Landing site, written by Christopher E. Hamilton, James Lauro, and David Swindell III was completed by mid-year (1975). Later in the year, Kelly completed his long awaited Swift Creek site report with the assistance of Betty A. Smith, who had been one of his doctoral students at the University of Georgia (Kelly and Smith 1975).
On March 26, 1976, Crawford transferred to the superintendency of Fort Sumter National Monument; and Walter T. Berrett replaced him as Ocmulgee Superintendent.

In early June, Roc Indermill entered on duty as park archeologist. The following March Faust, Fischer, and Walker met with Indermill and Southeast Regional Interpreter Bill Kay to discuss revision of the Ocmulgee visitor center museum. For the Center staff, this was the beginning of six years of sporadic involvement in planning, reviewing, and revising designs, scripts, and exhibit content; meeting and talking with contractors; and selecting artifacts for display. Walker, who had more experience in Ocmulgee archeology, was to be the most involved.

Later that spring, Christopher Hamilton completed his Master’s thesis, which was on the development of Lamar period ceramics in central Georgia. It was based on the analysis of ceramics from the sites tested in Willey’s stratigraphic survey (Hamilton 1977).

Near the end of August, James W. Stoutamire, Florida State University archeologist, and three of his students excavated a test pit at the Mossy Oak site to further explore the stratigraphic relationship between Mossy Oak and Lamar ceramics. The test produced a number of Lamar sherds, but not a single Mossy Oak sherd was found; hence no credible statement concerning the relationship between the two could be made (Stoutamire et al. 1978).

During the fall, Stoutamire and graduate students Chad O. Braley, Thomas R. Gest, and Patricia A. Logan prepared a report on the Tuft Springs sites (1977). These sites are of particular interest because of the semi-fiber tempered ceramics recovered from them.

From early January into June 1978, Walker conducted a survey using modified random sampling of a proposed development corridor at Ocmulgee. This corridor was bordered on the north by Emery Highway, on the east by the Walnut Creek bluff line, on the south by the Central of Georgia Railroad, and on the west by the small stream that runs between the visitor center and the Earthlodge. Two occupation areas were found: a small Swift Creek site on the Walnut Creek bluff line overlooking the railroad trestle, and a 10-hectare Macon Plateau site on the relatively level north-south ridge on which the Dunlap house and the visitor center are located. The latter site extends from the southern end of the visitor center parking area northward to a point some 100 meters north of the Dunlap house and includes the Dunlap Mound. No features were encountered in testing, and artifact density was low, suggesting that the site was occupied for a relatively short period or that there were recurrent occupations of a temporary nature such as might have been associated with markets and/or ceremonies.

During that same period, Betty Smith edited the late Joseph Caldwell’s report on excavations at the Fairchilds Landing and Hares Landing sites on the lower Chattahoochee River (Caldwell 1978). These excavations were carried out in 1953, when Caldwell was a Park Service archeologist duty stationed at Ocmulgee.

In the fall, Martha S. Zierden completed an analysis of materials recovered from the Hawkins Point site, which was tested by Willey in 1937 (Zierden 1978). Although most ceramics from the site fall into typical Lamar types, a few sherds of Columbia Incised suggest a Fort Walton influence.

An article by Charles H. Fairbanks on the function of the black drink among the Creeks was published in 1979. In it he discussed "... Macon Plateau items which strongly imply the use of black drink" (Fairbanks 1979:121).

Superintendent Berrett retired from the Park Service on December 15, 1979. The following day he was replaced by Sibbald Smith, who transferred to Ocmulgee from the Natchez Trace Parkway.


Indermill resigned from the Service to return to graduate school in August 1981. Since that time, there has been no park archeologist at Ocmulgee National Monument.

The park visitor center was closed for renovation in November 1981. It reopened with a rededication of the museum on March 23, 1983. Faust and Walker were present for the ceremonies, but Fairbanks was the only former Park Service archeologist in attendance.

During August and September 1984, Center staff members Allen H. Cooper, Teresa Paglione, and Walker monitored the installation of new sewer and water lines at the park. Insofar as possible, these were run along road shoulders and in other previously disturbed areas; however, as was expected, Macon Plateau period ceramics and historic artifacts were recovered in the area between the visitor center and Dunlap House. Not foreseen, however, was the disturbance of a cache of five large unworked Busycon perversum near the Mound C parking area. These shells were in association with Macon Plateau period ceramics (Cooper and Walker 1987).

Two reappraisals of generally accepted archeological theories with close relationship to Ocmulgee were published that year. One, a reconstruction of the De Soto expedition route through Georgia and the Carolinas written by Charles Hudson, Marvin Smith, and Chester DePratter, placed Ichisi at the Lamar site (1984:70) rather than on the Flint River near Albany where the De Soto Commission had placed it (Swanton 1939:174-176). The other, a paper by Bruce D. Smith dealing with the development, acceptance, reappraisal, and rejection of the heartland/migration explanatory model for Mississippian expansion, quoted
numerous statements by archeologists as Kelly (1938d), Fairbanks (1946b, 1952b, 1956a), Willey (1953), Wilson (1964), and Waring (1968), who cited Macon Plateau as a prime example of Mississippian colonization (1984:18-28).

Judy L. Hellmich completed her Master's thesis at Florida State University on the research potential of CWA and WPA archeological collections from Bibb County in 1985. Glen Doran was thesis director.

Also completed that year was an administrative history of Ocmulgee National Monument. It was written by Alan Marsh, a graduate student in history at the University of Georgia (Marsh 1986).

During the fall Thomas H. Gresham conducted archeological surveys of four alternative freeway routes, one of which ran between the Macon Plateau and Lamar sites. On this latter route he relocated three prehistoric sites which Walker had reported in 1971. These were the Gledhill No. 1, No. 2, and No. 3 sites from which a number of Early Archaic artifacts and one Paleo-Indian projectile point (a complete Clovis from Gledhill No. 2) had been recovered (Walker 1971b). Although Gresham stated that "... all were heavily disturbed and eroded" (Gresham and Rudolph 1986:1:40), the site forms for Gledhill No. 1 and No. 3 indicate that lithics were recovered from them (Gresham and Rudolph 1986:2:site forms 992-1, 993-1).

In 1986, as a means of insuring a more meaningful park experience for younger school children and other specialized groups, the park staff utilized volunteer services and donated funds to establish a combination museum and laboratory which provides hands-on experiences and other types of interpretation individualized to fit the needs of a particular group. This facility, named the Dr. Charles H. Fairbanks Memorial Research Lab, was dedicated in May 1986. Mrs. Fairbanks was present for the dedication.

Later that year, Superintendent Smith asked David J. Hally of the University of Georgia to organize a symposium on Ocmulgee related archeology in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of Ocmulgee National Monument. The symposium was held December 14, 1986, at Mercer University. Sylvia Flowers of the Ocmulgee staff and Donald Evans, Mercer faculty member, were in charge of local arrangements.

In January 1987 Hally asked Walker to write a "... history of the Ocmulgee excavations ..." which would not be "... too much [concerned] with the scientific results of the investigations ..." or attempt to be "... a site report" (Hally 1987). This paper was an effort to do just that.
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