LOWER MISSISSIPPI SURVEY
THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE UPPER TENNAS BASIN

Part One
by
Stephen Williams
William L. Kean
Alan Toth
UPPER TENSAS BASIN SURVEY
PART I

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   Acknowledgments
   Grants: NSF, Milton Fund, PM.

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SOME IMPORTANT ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES IN THE LOWER VALLEY

Sites in the Upper Tensa Basin

Δ Sites Outside the Region

Miles
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEQUENCE of PHASES</th>
<th>BUILDING the TENSAS SEQUENCE</th>
<th>CULTURE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HISTORIC TAENSA</td>
<td>LAKE ST. JOSEPH&lt;br&gt;LOCALITY: Beasley (24-L-14), New Ground (24-L-12), Clark Bayou (24-L-9). No Trade Goods so far.</td>
<td>HISTORIC TRIBES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSYLVANIA</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (22-L-3)*&lt;br&gt;Major Mound Construction. Sites: Folk (23-L-12), Somerset (24-L-2), Elk Ridge (24-L-13).</td>
<td>MISSISSIPPAN INTRUSION&lt;br&gt;PLAQUEMINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FITZHUGH</td>
<td>&quot;EARLY PLAQUEMINE&quot;&lt;br&gt;Little known at present: Possibly lower levels at Fitzhugh (23-L-1)*</td>
<td>COLES CREEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;EARLY PLAQUEMINE&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>DEASONVILLE&lt;br&gt;INTRUSION&lt;br&gt;TROYVILLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALMORAL</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (24-L-1)<em>&lt;br&gt;Mott (23-J-1)</em>, Canebrake (24-J-9)<em>, Hilly Grove (24-L-7)</em>. Many sites known.</td>
<td>MARKsville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALLINA</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (26-J-8)<em>&lt;br&gt;Compton Lake (23-L-9)</em>, Insley (23-K-2)*. Best evidence to the south.</td>
<td>TCHEFUNCTE</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDOWN</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (25-K-9)<em>&lt;br&gt;Cooter Point (25-K-11), Johnson (22-K-6)</em>, Compton Lake (23-L-9)*.</td>
<td>POVERTY POINT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARSDEN</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (23-K-4)<em>&lt;br&gt;Neeley (22-K-10)</em> - Pure fire pit complexes. Stickley (22-K-17), McNeal (22-K-8)*.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>INDIAN BAYOU</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (23-K-3)<em>&lt;br&gt;Mound D at Type Site. Insley (23-K-2)</em>. Few sites known, mainly in the south.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ISSAQUENA</td>
<td>Lowest levels at Indian Bayou (23-K-3)* and Mott (23-J-1)<em>. Many surface collections. Enigmatic Components: Head (21-K-1)</em> and Johnson (22-K-6)*.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POINT LAKE</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (23-L-16)<em>&lt;br&gt;Some Mabin Stamped sherds as strays at Canebrake (24-J-9)</em>, etc. Very rare.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PANTHER LAKE</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (22-K-20)<em>&lt;br&gt;Some Tchefunctoid sherds at Poverty Point (22-K-1)</em>. Only abundant evidence at Type Site.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>POVERTY POINT</td>
<td>TYPE SITE: (22-K-1)<em>&lt;br&gt;Other components: Head (21-K-1)</em>, Mott (23-J-1)<em>, Insley (23-K-2)</em>, Panther Lake (22-K-20)<em>, Neeley (22-K-10)</em>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Phases in Lower Yazoo Basin</td>
<td>The Cultures</td>
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**RUSSELL**  | **HISTORIC TRIBES**  | **FATHERLAND INC. AND BARTON (UNCASS)**  | **TAENSA ON LAKE ST. JOSEPH**  |

**LAKE GEORGE**  | **MISSISSIPPIAN**  | **WINTERVILLE INC., LELAND, AND GRACE BRUSHED**  | **TRANSYLVANIA FITZHUGH COMPLEXES**  |

**MAYERSVILLE**  | **PLAQUEMINE**  | **PLAQUEMINE BRUSHED AND TUNICA RIMS**  | **EARLY PLAQUEMINE**  |

**CRIPPEN POINT**  |  |  |  |

**KING'S CROSSING**  | **COLES CREEK**  | **VICKSBURG RIMS, MOTT, GREENHOUSE**  | **BALMORAL**  |

**ADEN**  |  |  | **BALLINA**  |

**BAYLAND**  | **BAYTOWN/DEASONVILLE**  | **C.C.I VAR. COLES CREEK AND FRENCH FORK VAR. LARKIN**  | **SUNDOWN**  |

**DEASONVILLE**  |  |  | **MARSDEN**  |

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**TCHULA**  |  |  | **POINT LAKE**  |

**JACKETOWN**  | **POVERTY POINT**  |  | **POVERTY POINT**  |

**ARCHAIC**  |  |  | **DALTON POINTS FLUTED-POINT AT THE MOTT SITE ON MACON RIDGE.**  |

**PALEO-INDIAN**  |  |  |  |
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Map of Lemoyne d'Iberville's journey in March 1700 from Natchez to the village of the Taenās.

Including Notes from the journals of Iberville, Father DuRu and Penicaud.

(River course is Fisk's reconstruction for the 18th century)

March 14, 1700

"The morning of the 14th we reached the border of the lake. We made on the lake about 2 leagues. This lake may be 1/4 of a league broad and 1 1/2 leagues long.

There may be in this nation 150 cabins in the space of 2 leagues on the edge of the lake. The main part of this village is opposite a little stream about 100 paces wide, on the banks of which are some cabins of the savages."

Iberville

"The Taenās village is beautifully situated, but I fear that the lake which makes it so beautiful is somewhat unhealthy, for the water is stagnant, and its mists heavy.

"There are scarcely 100 cabins at Taenās."

Father Montigny in residence with the Taenās

March 12, 1700

"We left the Natchez and on our right, still headed upstream, passed along some great rocky banks."

Penicaud

March 12, 1700

"I passed this, and two gunshots upstream on the left we decided to go to the village."

Penicaud

March 13, 1700

"I found that from the landing of the Natchez to this of the Taenās, following the river, is about 15 leagues."

Iberville

March 12, 1700

"I found that from the landing of the Natchez to this of the Taenās, following the river, is about 15 leagues."

Iberville

"The fog has lifted and it now rains heavily. We have had to land to find cover. There are two islands quite close together, but we should get beyond them this evening. The weather is good and our men are in good spirits."

FATHER DuRu

Father DuRu follows the expedition to Taenās Village

March 13, 1700

"No left the Natchez and on our right, still headed upstream, passed along some great rocky banks."

Penicaud

March 13, 1700

Iberville and company arrive at Natchez

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ERAS OF LOWER VALLEY PREHISTORY

Present

NEO-INDIAN

2000 B.C.

MESO-INDIAN

6500 B.C.

PALEO-INDIAN

15,000 B.C.

Permanent Villages

Ceremonial Structures

Beginning of Pottery

AGRICULTURE

More Settled Habitation

MODERN FAUNA

Semi-Sedentary Hunters or Gatherers

PLEISTOCENE MEGAFAUNA

Miss. Triangular

Coles Creek

Tchefuncte

Big Sandy

Delton

Clawed

Extinction

Corn

Beans

Squash

White Tail Buck

Mammoth

Pelican

Bison
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