

Archaeology of the American South Anthropology 550

Week 4: Early Archaic Settlement Models

Our discussion will focus on some classic interpretations of Early Archaic settlement patterns in the South. In doing the readings, think about the following questions: Which environmental factors are believed to be the most important in determining the patterns of settlement and mobility? To what extent can aspects of group mobility be inferred from tool types and raw materials found in site assemblages? How convincing are the arguments of this sort that have been presented for the Early Archaic?

Everyone should read all the articles, but each student should be prepared to present and critique *one* of the settlement models in detail. Think about the strengths and weaknesses of each model, and how strongly the evidence supports it (or not). Which environmental factors does each model stress?

General Background:

Anderson, David G., and Kenneth E. Sassaman (2012). Pioneers and Colonists of the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene. In *Recent Developments in Southeastern Archaeology: From Colonization to Complexity*, pp. 66-76. SAA Press, Washington, D.C.

Miller, D. Shane, Ashley M. Smallwood, and Philip J. Carr (2023). A Brief History of Modeling Early Holocene Landscape Use in the American Southeast. *Southeastern Archaeology* 42(1): 1-11.

Binford, Lewis R. (1980). Willow Smoke and Dogs' Tails: Hunter-Gatherer Settlement Systems and Archaeological Site Formation. *American Antiquity* 45(1): 4-20.

Settlement Models:

Anderson and Hanson (1988). Early Archaic Settlement in the Southeastern United States: A Case Study from the Savannah River. *American Antiquity* 53: 262-286.

Daniel, I. Randolph, Jr. (2001). Stone Raw Material Availability and Early Archaic Settlement in the Southeastern United States. *American Antiquity* 66(2): 237-265.

Hollenbach, Kandace Detwiler (2010). Modeling Resource Procurement of Late Paleoindian Hunter-Gatherers: A View from Northwest Alabama. In *Exploring Variability in Early Holocene Hunter-Gatherer Lifeways*, edited by Stance Hurst and Jack Hofman, pp. 13-26. University of Kansas Press.

More Readings (Optional):

Binford, Lewis R. (1979). Organization and Formation Processes: Looking at Curated Technologies. *Journal of Anthropological Research* 35: 255-273.

Anderson, David G., and Kenneth E. Sassaman (1996). Modeling Paleoindian and Early Archaic Settlement in the Southeast: A Historical Perspective. In *The Paleoindian and Early Archaic Southeast*, edited by David G. Anderson and Kenneth E. Sassaman, pp. 16-28. University of Alabama Press.

Anderson, David G., and Joseph Schuldenrein (1983). Early Archaic Settlement on the Southeastern Atlantic Slope: A View from the Ruckers Bottom Site, Elbert County, Georgia. *North American Archaeologist* 4: 177-210. (Focus on the archaeology [pp. 177-192, 199-205], not on the geomorphology.)