

Forward To: *Board members / Key Staff*
From: David McNeill, County Mgr. *Sharon K.*



North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
Office of State Archaeology
Stephen R. Claggett, State Archaeologist

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Lisbeth C. Evans, Secretary

Division of Historical Resources
David Brook, Director

July 30, 2007

W. David McNeill, Jr.
Guilford County Manager
301 W. Market Street
Greensboro, NC 27402

Dear Mr. McNeill:

The proposed 569-acre Bluegreen development in northern Guilford County was brought to our attention by a group of citizens concerned about the destruction of a number of Native American archaeological sites in the project area. A member of my staff met with these citizens and viewed their very extensive artifact collections. The materials collected by these individuals ranged in age from the Paleo-Indian period (ca. 10,000 BC) through to the Late Woodland period (ca. AD 1500) and covered the entire range of prehistoric occupation in the Guilford County area. Some of the artifacts were quite rare and unusual.

While these citizens were quite anxious that our office take action to stop the proposed development, they were informed that we had no regulatory authority over the project. To date, we have seen no federal or state permit applications for our review for the project and it is unlikely that we will have an official role in this process of project approval. However, I would like to take this opportunity to urge the Guilford County officials to encourage the developers to have an archaeological survey conducted on the property prior to project development. Given the extensive and important collections of artifacts in the area, it is likely that several Native American, and perhaps early historic period, archaeological sites will be damaged and/or destroyed by the proposed residential and golf course development. While archaeological concerns may not halt development, it would be to the benefit of the citizens of Guilford County if these non-renewable resources were studied prior to their destruction.

The rapid pace of residential and commercial construction in Guilford County, and the state of North Carolina as a whole, has been one of the major causes of the disappearance of the prehistoric and historic resources that represent the heritage of our state. We urge you to consider the consequences of approving this and other developments without prior archaeological investigations. We would be glad to meet with you or your staff to discuss the archaeological

Central Office 619 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-4619 919/733-7342; fax 919/715-2671 Location: 421 N. Blount Street Raleigh NC	OSA Research Center 4612 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-4612 919/715-5599; fax 919/715-1386 Location: 215 W. Lane Street Raleigh NC	Underwater Archaeology Branch Post Office Box 58 Kure Beach NC 28449 910/458-9042; fax 910/458-4093 Location: 1608 Fort Fisher Blvd. Kure Beach NC	Queen Anne's Revenge Project 3431 Arendell Street Morehead City NC 28557 252/726-6841x155; fax 252/726-2426	Western Office Archives and History 1 Village Lane Suite 3 Asheville NC 28803-2677 828/274-6789; fax 828/274-6995
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