

TIMELINE
ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE NORTHWEST END OF ROANOKE ISLAND

- 1895 Amateur archaeologist Talcott Williams of the University of Pennsylvania investigated the earthwork by excavating 13 trenches.
- 1938 Southeastern archaeologist A.R. Kelly conducted a small survey of the future Fort Raleigh National Historic Site property.
- 1947/48 National Park Service archaeologist J. C. Harrington directed the excavation of a series of test trenches in the earthwork and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site property.
- 1950/51 J.C. Harrington completed the excavation and reconstruction of the earthwork.
- 1953 Harrington excavated test trenches in Elizabethan Garden.
- 1965 Harrington excavated the “outwork” at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.
- Harrington conducted salvage excavation of Native American ossuary at Dough’s Point.
- 1980 East Carolina University archaeologist David S, Phelps conducted investigations at 31DR48 'Indian Hole' to relocate mass grave noted by Williams in 1895 and at Fessenden National Memorial.
- 1980 Kenneth Hartsell under the direction of David Phelps conducted a surface survey of the shoreline for the entire north end of Roanoke Island from Northwest Point to Baum Point. A possible shell midden was noted near Harrington's 1965 ossuary salvage. No new sites identified.
- 1980 Hartsell and Phelps conducted a survey at the location of the Dare County High School in Manteo. 31DR51, a late 19th to early 20th century farmstead was recorded and tested.
- 1982 John E. Ehrenhard, William P. Athens, and Gregory L. Komara of the Southeast Archaeological Center of the National Park Service conducted soil resistivity and magnetometer surveys west of the earthwork at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.

National Park Service ranger Phil Evans discovers a barrel in the shallow water near the Prince House; the barrel is likely the bottom of an eroded barrel-lined well that may be related to one of Raleigh's settlements.

- 1983 Ehrenhard and Komara initiated "ground truthing" excavations of anomalies detected by 1982 remote sensing survey at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.
- Loretta Lautzenheiser and Hartsell conducted surveying and testing under the direction of David Phelps of areas to the west of Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. Twenty-eight two-meter squares, one-meter squares, and one x two-meter test units and a number of shovel test were dug near Sandpiper's Trace at Northwest Point along the western NPS boundary, south of US 64 along the eastern side of Alder Branch, and near the location where a 1563 sixpence had been recovered in 1974 by a property owner from a garden plot. The project was sponsored by America's Four Hundredth Anniversary Committee and Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.
- East Carolina University underwater archaeologist surveyed Roanoke Sound.
- 1984 Phelps surveyed and tested the proposed site for the Roanoke Island Historical Association Center for the Arts at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site. Areas included in the survey were those just south of the Prince House and south of what is sometimes called Barrel Well Beach. Minor amounts of Colington ceramics were recovered from the surface as well as evidence related to the late 19th/early 20th century Dough Farm.
- 1985 National Park Service archaeologist Jack W. Walker conducted investigation of anomaly believed to be a bastion of a wooden fort at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
- 1990 National Park Service archaeologist Susan Hammersten conducted shovel test hole survey of telephone line corridor at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
- Southeast Archaeological Center archaeologist Bennie Keel excavated 5 one-meter test squares at the site of the electrical utilities building at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site
- 1991 Keel monitored installation of sewage treatment facility west of the Waterside Theater
- National Park Service archaeologist Douglas Potter monitored the installation of a telephone cable at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site

Potter shovel tested the area of the visitors' center rest room building at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site

- 1991/92 Virginia Company Foundation lead by Ivor Noel Hume conducted excavations inside the earthwork and west of the earthwork resulting in identification of 1585 scientific workshop area of Thomas Harriot and Joachim Gans
- 1991 Lautzenheiser and Hargrove of Coastal Carolina Research conducted a survey of Heritage Point and tested at site 31DR61. 31DR61 is thought to be the remnants of a Civil War Occupation, possibly camp Reno.
- 1992 National Park Service archaeologist Ken Wild monitored the installation of a sewer line at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.
- Lautzenheiser and Eastman conducted investigations at the proposed location of the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge Visitors' center on the south site of US 64. Civil War related sites were identified.
- 1993 Virginia Company Foundation excavated the charcoal pit found by Harrington.
- Southeast Archaeological Center archaeologist Daniel Penton and East Carolina University archaeologist David Phelps conducted investigations to clear a water drain line trench at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site Visitors' Center.
- 1994 Virginia Company Foundation conducted block excavations to reinvestigate features found by Harrington west and north of the earthwork.
- Phelps conducted investigations to clear the construction of the Waterside Theater Ticket booth.
- 1995 Virginia Company Foundation conducted a survey of the eastern portion of the Harriot Nature Trail woods.
- Phelps monitored the excavation of a water line trench between the Waterside Theater ticket booth and the Fort Raleigh Visitors center.
- Phelps conducted investigations prior to construction of the Elizabethan Gardens warehouse. Modern and 18th century historic material was recovered.
- 1995 The first year of a joint project between East Carolina University geologists and archaeologists Stan Riggs and David Phelps, respectively.

The project consisted of offshore testing at three points along the northwest end of Roanoke Island and included the excavation of transects and two-meter squares at Northwest Point, Dough's Point; and the Waterside Theater. Prehistoric, historic and modern artifacts were recovered.

- 1996 Phelps conducted investigations prior to construction of the Elizabethan Gardens Conference Center and located a buried Colonial land surface.
- Second year of joint project between Riggs and Phelps. Offshore testing conducted between Dough's Point and the Elizabethan Gardens. Prehistoric, historic and modern artifacts were recovered.
- Southeast Archaeological Center archaeologist Bennie Keel along with East Carolina University archaeologists investigated the alignments of utility lines from the Fort Raleigh National Historic Site headquarters building to the visitor restrooms and an underground telephone line between the NPS maintenance building and the Elizabethan Gardens; only modern material were recovered.
- 2000 Southeast Archaeological Center archaeologist Lou Groh conducted surveys, including ground penetrating radar, of several areas in Fort Raleigh National Historic Site and two tracts between the Elizabethan Gardens and Northwest Point.
- 2005 First Colony Foundation underwater archaeologist Gordon Watts conducted an underwater survey of the shallow waters west of the Prince House.
- 2006 First Colony Foundation conducted a survey behind eroding dune ridge in Prince House Woods at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.
- 2007 First Colony Foundation underwater archaeologist Watts conducted an underwater survey of Shallowbag Bay.
- 2008 First Colony Foundation and Time Team America conducted excavations in the eastern section of the Harriot Nature Trail woods directed by Eric Klingelhofer and Nicholas Lucchetti and uncovered features that contained Venetian glass beads and a necklace of 14 copper pendants.
- First Colony Foundation archaeologist Clay Swindell surveyed the Harriot Nature Trail woods under the direction of Klingelhofer and Lucchetti and located early 18th-century site.