Archaeological Studies of Gender
in the Southeastern
United States

Edited by
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Foreword by Jerald T. Milanich, Series Editor

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Acknowledgments

This book derives from our symposium about archaeological studies of gender in southeastern North America, held at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Birmingham, Alabama, in November 1996. Planning for this symposium must have gotten underway in the midst of Patricia Crown’s plans for an archaeological symposium about sex roles and gender hierarchies in the native Southwest, held at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in Nashville, Tennessee, in April 1997. Gender is indeed a burgeoning niche within archaeology (see Nelson 1997). The publication of books about the archaeology of gender in specific cultural and geographic regions is a welcome contribution to the anthropological literature (see Kent 1998a). Ours is the first archaeological book that takes gender in the native Southeast as its main topic. We hope that it will contribute to further archaeological interests in and inquiries about gender in native Southeastern societies.

Our inspiration for the symposium and this book came from the graduate seminar about the archaeology of gender taught in 1996 by Margaret Scarry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. We appreciate her introduction to the archaeological literature about gender and her abiding interest in this and other of our projects.

Thanks very much to Meredith Morris-Babb for her encouragement ever since our symposium in 1996 and her interest in having the University Press of Florida publish this book as a contribution to its Ripley P. Bullen Series with the Florida Museum of Natural History. Judy Goffman helped us in preparing the final manuscript, and David Graham helped with the illustrations. We could not have put this book together without their guidance and the support of many others.

Of course, considerable credit is due our chapter contributors. Their patience is as commendable as their archaeology is exemplary. We thank
Vin Steponaitis, Trawick Ward, Steve Davis, Margaret Scarry, Nancy White, Jerald Milanich, and an anonymous reviewer for their comments about the book. Our thanks go to them and to Ken Sassaman, John Scarry, Stephen Williams, Tom Maher, David Hally, Lynne Sullivan, David Moore, Holly Matthews, Patrick Livingood, Tony Boudreaux, Hunter Johnson, Rob Beck, Hope Spencer, Bram Tucker, Greg Wilson, Marianne Reeves, Tiffiny Tung, Celeste Gagnon, Randy Daniel, Mark Rees, Joe Herbert, David Morgan, Mintcy Maxham, Clark Larsen, Patty Jo Watson, Kandi Detwiler, Theda Perdue, Patricia Samford, Judy Knight, Sara Bon-Harper, Kathy McDonnell, Amber VanDerwarker, and several fellow graduate students for their interests in and recommendations about this publication. Unfortunately, neither Ken Sassaman nor Marianne Reeves were able to contribute their conference papers to the book. Our thanks go to Lynne Sullivan for coming aboard after our symposium and to Janet Levy for ably authoring the epilogue. We are grateful to professors Elizabeth Brumfiel and Margaret Conkey for their inspiration and encouragement. We thank our friends and fellow archaeologists Patricia Samford and Annie Holm for their moral support and helpful brainstorming. This book owes much to all of these people.

We are also grateful for the patience of our dissertation advisors.
To understand the past, archaeologists must uncover and interpret the material remains left by past human cultures. Because human behavior is patterned, archaeologists search for corresponding patterns in the archaeological record. When we can discern such evidence, we can better understand past human societies and events.

In this volume, Jane M. Eastman and Christopher B. Rodning—both young scholars trained at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill—focus on gender and how behavior associated with gender appears in the archaeological record. Women, as well as men, performed activities that are patterned and that left evidence in archaeological sites. If we are truly to understand the cultures of people who lived hundreds and even thousands of years ago, we must be cognizant of material evidence that is tied to female social statuses and roles as well as to those of males. We need to engender archaeological interpretation. Otherwise, our knowledge of the past is incomplete.

Archaeological Studies of Gender in the Southeastern United States presents cutting-edge case studies, actual archaeological and bioarchaeological projects, that demonstrate how we can engender archaeology. Using data excavated from sites, the editors and authors make clear the importance of such an approach, and they show how it enhances the archaeological record and our ability to use material remains to learn about past cultures.

This is an important book, one that breaks new ground. I am pleased to add it to the Ripley P. Bullen series.

Jerald T. Milanich
Series Editor
Dedication

This book is dedicated to the memory of Timothy Paul Mooney and Thomas Hargrove. Tim and Tom were both doctoral students in archaeology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Tim died in an accident near Hillsborough, North Carolina, on an icy day in February 1995. Tom died suddenly while visiting a museum in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina, one weekend in October 1999. Both were remarkable people and talented archaeologists. Both made valuable contributions to archaeology but had many more to make.

Tim Mooney (1992, 1994, 1995, 1997) was writing his doctoral dissertation at UNC-CH about Choctaw ethnohistory and the archaeology of the Pearl River Valley in Mississippi, and he had directed archaeological field schools at Siouan sites near Martinsville, Virginia. His study of Choctaw culture change and compromise during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was published posthumously with an introductory essay by Vin Steponaitis. The graduate program at North Carolina was lucky to have him after his successful career as a lawyer in Washington. His enthusiasm for archaeology, his calm and humble leadership, his dependability, and his rapport with students and colleagues were remarkable. His family helped to create the Timothy Paul Mooney Fund for research by graduate students in archaeology at the Research Laboratories of Archaeology in Chapel Hill.

Tom was pursuing Ph.D. research at UNC-CH about Woodland-period archaeology along the Roanoke River in southern Virginia, and he had participated in archaeological studies of European prehistory and landscape history in Burgundy, France. His study of Piedmont ceramic traditions was only one of countless contributions that Tom made to archaeological knowledge of native peoples during every period in every part of North Carolina. It is difficult to imagine North Carolina archaeol-
ogy without Tom. His abiding interest in traditional music and other
folkways, his taste for barbecue and creative potluck gatherings, his vast
but humble knowledge of just about everything, his creative and often
comic command of language, and his quiet but palpable presence and
friendship are unforgettable. Tom had run Archaeological Research Con-
sultants for years from its legendary headquarters at the Forge in down-
town Raleigh.

This book owes much to the inspiration of these men.