

A Proven Methodology for Locating and Documenting Indian Villages and Sacred Sites

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INTRODUCTION

This methodology has been developed and refined over the past three years while researching Indian sites across the nation. The methodology is based on the use of Native Science and dowsing to locate and document Native sites. The use of dowsing in research is controversial to many and some in the academic community discount it as unproven. However, one of the principles of Native Science is sensing the energy of a site and dowsing is the tool for measuring the location and direction of that energy. Through a comprehensive understanding of the energy at the site, one can begin to interpret Native site purpose and significance.

The developed methodology is a four-phase investigation process. The first phase is to locate the site in general terms based on studying as much of the history of the site as can be determined. Then through successive refined investigative techniques, we locate the site more precisely so that in the final boots-on-the-ground phase one can document the site accurately. This process has been used to document the following sites successfully in the past three years:

- Creek and Cherokee Village Sites, Big Canoe, Jasper, GA
- Creek Village site, Bent Tree, Jasper, GA
- Ceremonial Burial Sites Big Canoe and Bent Tree GA
- Track Rock, GA
- Judaculla Rock, NC
- Creek Ceremonial Site, Sharptop Mt., GA
- Creek Village and Ceremonial Burial Site, Burnt Mt, GA
- New Cowee Cherokee Village, Jasper, GA
- Huntoweekee Creek Village, Dahlonega, GA
- Little Chotee Cherokee Village, Helen, GA
- Saute-Nagoochee Cherokee Village, Saute, GA
- Alex Mt. Ceremonial Creek Site, Toccoa, GA
- Long Hair Cherokee Village, Toccoa, GA
- Catawba Village and Ceremonial Sites, Chester, SC
- Lindal Mill Creek Village, Lindal, GA
- Etowah Cherokee Village, Rome, GA
- Enestanaree Creek Village, Calhoun, GA
- Cherokee New Echota and Ceremonial Sites, Calhoun, GA
- Cherokee Red Clay and Ceremonial Sites, Red Clay. TN
- Cherokee Rock Village, Manchester, TN

- Tombecbe Choctaw Village, Epes, AL
- Black Warrior Creek Village, Sipse, AL
- Turkey Town Cherokee Village, Centre, AL
- Cherokee Rock Village, Sand Mt., AL
- Lanudshi Apala Hillabee Creek Town, AL
- Shawnee Sacred Healing Site, Dumor, KY
- Chehaw Creek Village, Leesburg, GA
- Old Chattanooga Creek Village, GA
- Creek Mother Town, Alvaton, GA
- Cherokee Deer Clan Ceremonial Healing Site. Free Home, GA
- Comanche Village Site, Waco, TX
- Comanche Village site, Easterly, TX
- Waco Indian Village Site, Waco, TX
- Ute Site, Sedalia, CO
- Comanche Site, Conifer, CO
- Comanche Site, Evergreen, CO
- Ute Sacred Healing and Council Site, Conifer, CO
- Arapaho Council Site, Conifer, CO
- Comanche Sacred Site, Aspen Park, CO
- Ute Sacred Site, Indian Hills, CO
- Ute Sacred Site, Falcon Park, CO
- Cheyenne Sacred Site, Falcon Park, CO
- Ute Sacred Sites, Three Sisters Park, Evergreen, CO
- Cheyenne Sacred Site, Evergreen CO
- Ute Sacred Site, Golden, CO
- Multiple Ute Sacred Sites, Black Forest, CO
- Wyandotte Village, Black Forest, CO
- Sacred Ute Site, Pueblo CO
- Chaco Canyon Sacred Healing Site, NM
- And Many more

Scheduled currently for investigation are tens of sites in GA, AL, NC, TX and CO.

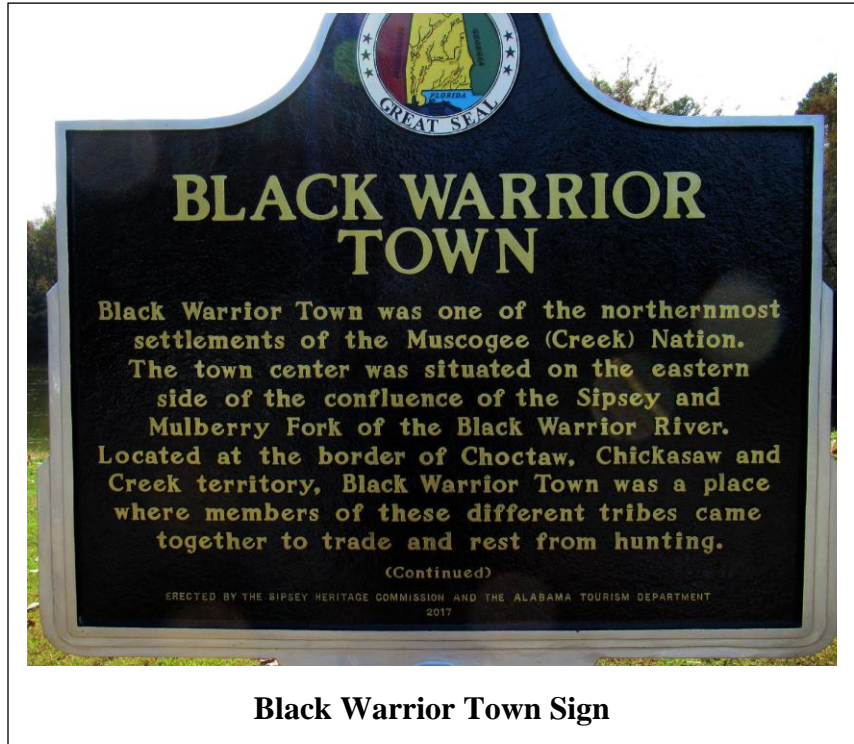
FOUR PHASE METHODOLOGY

PHASE ONE – SITE HISTORICAL RESEARH

The research for any site begins with gathering as much historical documentation and resources as can be found that provides possible location data on the site in question. This may include historical maps, journal accounts by explorers who visited the site, historical books written about Indian sites, local historians with first-hand knowledge and tribal elders. A review of all these documents and site information hopefully will provide the ability to locate the site in general terms. That

translates into locating the site within a few miles of where it may actual exist. Based on this research, a preliminary site location should be annotated on Google Earth.

The Phase One research can be, at times, difficult as many village sites ~~for instance were~~ moved about over time so one research report may have it located some distance from where another research report indicates. In some states, authors have published extensive documentation on Indian site locations. For instance, in Alabama, Amos Wright, Jr. published his book, *Historic Indian Towns in Alabama, 1540-1838*. That one resource is the culmination of many years work researching Indian town sites and provides the most comprehensive data available to date. As an example, Wright's documentation of the Black Warrior Creek Town states it is located on the Mulberry Fork of the Black Warrior River opposite the mouth of Sipsey Fork in Walker County, AL. It is hard to get any more precise that that. And when you arrive at that location, you are greeted by a Historical Sign saying this is the place.



Black Warrior Town Sign

In some rare cases, a local historian has the data on the exact location and can serve as your host for a site visit. In visiting a Catawba village site, our local host found evidence of the village existence and provided that data to us to evaluate prior to visiting the site in SC. After our first visit to the site, it became evident there was more to be found and a second visit was scheduled to document the complete Catawba village site at a park in the city.

In other cases, local historians may be basing their knowledge on rumors that have been around for many years and you can be led down a rabbit hole if you're not careful to validate the information.

The end result of this Phase is to mark the location of the site on Google Earth with as much accuracy as can be achieved within the limits of the resource documentation.

PHASE TWO – REFINING THE LOCATION DATA

Phase two is the most controversial of this methodology. In this Phase, we use “Remote Dowsing” to refine the site location to within a quarter mile or ~~preferable-much~~ less so that the site ownership can be accomplished in Phase Three and the Boots-On-The-Ground site inspection can be accomplished in Phase Four.

Any accomplished dowser can probably use the capability of remote dowsing although currently there are only a few people in GA and CO using it successfully. Remote dowsing is using the dowsing rods while observing the site data point on Google Earth located in Phase One. As done in the field with dowsing, one can use the rods to point to the location of the site you are trying to locate. With the site in question centered on the computer screen displayed in Google Earth, one can ask the question, “Where is the location of the XXX village or sacred site.” The rods will usually move in the direction of the site and point to a more precise location. You may need to rotate the screen 90 degrees as the location may be to the north or south and the rods only move left or right. Using this technique, it is possible to get a more refined location through a process of repeatedly zooming down to a higher accuracy Google Earth image and continuing to ask the site location until the rods lock in on a precise point.

If you zoom in to far and the site is lost, then you should ask “In which direction is the site located and the rods will rotate to indicate ~~to~~ which way to move the screen image until you have relocated the site.

Through this iterative process, you should now have a more precise location of the site in question and its location can be documented with GPS coordinates.

Using this process in 2018, two Ute sites were located ~~in CO~~ in Jefferson County, CO. In the Phase Four Boots-On-The-Ground Phase, the exact location of these sacred sites was found to be less than 100 feet from the site located in Phase Two and in one case the site was less that 50 feet. This clearly demonstrated that the process of remote dowsing works.

Even before the boot-on-the-ground research begins, interpretation of the site can be started by using remote dowsing to pose questions with yes or no answers. This allows some to delve into the site properties before actually being there.

PHASE THREE – ASSESSING SITE ACCESSIBILITY

Phase three allows you to determine if you can legally access the site so that it can be documented in Phase four. Use the site’s GPS coordinates to determine if the site is on county, state or federal property. If so, access should not be a problem and you can move onto Phase Four planning. If the site is on private property, then more planning will be necessary to determine accessibility. If the site is accessible, you will need permission from the site owner. The ownership can be determined through county tax records.

Some sites, particularly along rivers, may be too hard to reach ~~get to~~ even if permission is ~~was~~ granted. One might be able to access the site via water craft but that takes planning and help to get it done. If the site is of critical importance to historical documentation, then begin the process to plan for the Phase Four effort. If not of critical importance, then it may not be worth the effort to access the site.

Most every county maintains the property ownership and tax records in a digital form stored on a county Geographic Information System (GIS). Most of these systems are available for public access through the tax assessor's office. For instance, in my county, the site is: <http://www.qpublic.net/ga/pickens/search.html>. Many use the qpublis.net format to display the data. Others use another GIS display option.

To get to the ownership records, use the roads and river data to localize the GIS map down to the plat data level. Some systems will allow you to enter the GPS point and they system will take you to the correct ownership plat record. Some systems only require you to point the curser at the plat to get the ownership data. Others have you first click on an "Info" icon in order to access the data. Whichever you have to use, click on the plat where the site is located to pull up the ownership and record that data. With the ownership data, you can send a letter asking permission to access the site for research purposes. Be sure to indicate in your letter that you only want to access the property and you will not be disturbing anything nor removing any artifacts. Some owners are reluctant to grant access so you are at the mercy of their benevolence.

PHASE FOUR – BOOTS-ON-THE-GROUND INVESTIGATION

Outfitted with a GPS receiver, a compass, a camera, note-taking forms, sacred Indian Tobacco, dowsing rods and more, you are ready to begin Phase Four. With the site GPS location determined in Phase Two, go to the site and begin to use the dowsing rods to lead you to the exact site location. In the hands of a skilled user, the dowsing rods will usually lead you to the exact location of the site in question. Once there, the documentation phase can begin.

It is recommended that, before you enter a sacred site, you should sprinkle Sacred Indian Tobacco on the ground to ask permission to enter the site. The Indian spirits are still guarding these sites and may interpret your actions as harmful and may block you from obtaining accurate data. Simply asking permission to enter and saying that you are there to do no harm may result in a lot more data than you hoped to obtain.

If in Phase Three, the owner has denied permission to access their property, there is still an option to get some of the data collected. If there is a road nearby ~~to access~~ the property, you can remotely dowse the property from the road. This requires you to find two or preferably three or four locations on the road from which you can remotely dowse the property. These locations should be spread

out to get as many angles to the site as possible to record the location. Using the GPS receiver, note your location on the road. Then using dowsing rods and a compass, you can ask questions such as “Where is the village located?” With the compass, measure the bearing of where the rods are pointing and note it in your records. Reiterate this process for several location so that you have several bearing lines. Where those lines cross when entered into Google Earth, you will find the location of the site for which you are searching. While in the vicinity of the sacred site, you can use the dowsing rods to ask multiple yes/no questions to interpret the site characteristics.

The complete process of documentation of the site is in a follow-on report to be published in the near future.