



A Local Technical Assistance Program - LTAP

ALABAMA TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER

AT AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Presents a Workshop on

Locating the Ellicott Mounds along the Alabama/Florida Boundary

Andalusia, AL

December 3rd - December 4th, 2009

Dear Colleague:

Earthen mounds established in 1799, at roughly one-mile intervals, mark the 31st parallel as laid out by a joint US-Spain Boundary Commission led by Andrew Ellicott, the original surveyor of Washington, D.C. One famed marker along this boundary line, as it crosses north of the City of Mobile along the Mobile River, is known as the Ellicott Stone, chosen as the origin point of the GLO Meridian for Alabama. These mounds reflect the initial implementation of a treaty of such significance that George Washington noted its contribution to preserving the frail union during his Presidential Farewell Address.

A segment of these mounds now define the Alabama-Florida Boundary between the Conecuh and Chattahoochee Rivers, a distance of 124 miles. Most all lie unmarked, unrecognized, and unremembered in isolated fields, along dirt roads, and within timbered forests and swamps. **This neglect has caused many of these mounds to be needlessly lost and, unless remedied, more will likely be lost in the future.** While unmarked in the field, early survey maps exist with their locations. From these maps mound locations have been calculated using a USGS digital quad sheet as a reference. These locations can then be taken to the field guided by hand-held GPS with great results. Several mounds were located using this method during the past summer demonstrating this approach. Field research can result in finding and documenting many of the original survey lines considered lost. Dr. Larry Crowley and Milton Denny have been researching the boundary line for several years. In this research effort, they have made numerous trips to the Florida state archives and county courthouses on both sides of the line to search the records.

This is a rain or shine workshop that will use surveyor-led teams to extend the effort to all potential locations on this segment of the boundary line. **Please come prepared to “work in the woods “ and bring a hand held GPS unit.** The located mounds will be fixed in location through GPS technology and then given a proper monument. The ultimate goal is to develop a map detailing the found mounds with their GPS locations. For those not wishing to join a field team a trip to previously discovered mounds will be provided.

This workshop will provide professional surveyors, engineers, and those working in related fields the opportunity to use modern technology to locate boundary monuments of historic significance. Attendees will receive a better understanding of the methods and equipment used during the time period the original surveys of Alabama were performed. This understanding leads to an appreciation of the accuracy of the original surveys and an understanding of its relationship to the modern retracement survey.

Please complete and return the enclosed registration form. A fee of \$150.00 per person should be mailed with your registration. Payment may be made by phone or fax if paying with Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express or government agency purchase order. **Registrants are reminded that registration is not complete until payment is made.** The registration fee includes handout materials, break refreshments, box lunch, buffet banquet and certificate of participation. Thank you for your continued support of the Alabama Technology Transfer Center. We look forward to seeing you at this workshop.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Vecellio".

Robert L. Vecellio
Alabama T² Center Director

SEMINAR TOPICS AND SCHEDULE

Thursday December 3rd

- 7:00 AM Registration & Check-In
(Andalusia City Hall)
- 8:00 AM Welcome and Introduction
- 8:10 AM Ellicott's Original Survey
- 9:00 AM Methodology for Finding Mounds
- 10:00 AM Assignment of Survey Crews
- 10:30 AM Survey Crews Depart to Locate Mounds
- 5:00 PM Report Day's Findings, Buffet Banquet at
Andalusia City Hall & Field Astronomy
Exhibition (weather permitting)

Friday December 4th

- 7:00 AM Meet at Andalusia City Hall/Depart for
Field Work
- 5:00 PM Report Results of 2nd Day Field Work &
Distribute Attendance Certificates
(Andalusia Days Inn)

Seminar Location

Andalusia City Hall

505 E Three Notch St
Andalusia, AL 36420-3129
(334) 222-3312

Andalusia Days Inn

1604 Dr.MLK Jr. Expressway Hwy 84 East
Andalusia, AL 36420
(334) 427-0050

Seminar Instructors

Milton E. Denny, RPS is a registered surveyor in seven states and a veteran of project development and management of surveying and mapping firms. He is the past president of the Alabama Society of Professional Land Surveyors, a Fellow in the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping and served on the Board of Direction. Mr. Denny is the author of many manuals dealing with marketing and management of firms for surveyors and photogrammetrists. He was instrumental in the starting of a new member organization in the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping called the Geographic and Land Information Society. He served as the first president. He is considered an expert in the field of new technology as it applies to surveying. Mr. Denny is also a student of the history of surveying equipment and the only manufacturer of reproduction surveying chain measuring equipment. He is the leading authority on the survey chain as used in surveying for over 300 years. He also provides a first person presentation of the colonial surveyor Andrew Ellicott.

Larry G. Crowley, P.E., PhD is a member of the Civil Engineering faculty at Auburn University where he teaches classes in surveying, construction engineering, and management. He holds an MBA in management and finance from Texas Christian University and a B.S. and Ph.D. in civil engineering from Texas A&M University. Prior to entering academics, Dr. Crowley worked in the design/construction industry for more than a decade and is a registered professional engineer in both Texas and Alabama.

Dr. Crowley has been researching the Alabama/Florida boundary line for several years in collaboration with Mr. Denny. In this research effort, they have made trips to the Florida State archives to acquire copies of their boundary plats, visited county courthouses on both sides of the line to search the records, and have made numerous trips along the boundary itself to locate mounds.

Continuing Education Units

Participants completing this seminar will receive 1.20 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The CEU is a nationally accepted measure of continuing education credit and is awarded at the rate of one CEU for each ten contact hours of qualifying instruction. Auburn University makes every effort to ensure that its CEU granting programs conform to the requirements of the State of Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors for the award of Professional Development Hours to support the annual renewal of professional registration.

Sponsorship

This seminar is one of the series of conferences and workshops being conducted as part of the Alabama Technology Transfer Center at Auburn University. This program is a part of the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) supported by the Federal Highway Administration, the Alabama Department of Transportation and Auburn University.

This seminar is the 237th offered, with more than 34,000 attendees, since the program's inception in 1983. In addition to conducting training seminars, the T² Center also publishes a quarterly newsletter, distributes publications and maintains a lending library of videotapes on technical subjects. The Alabama Technology Transfer Center is administered at Auburn University through the Engineering Continuing Education office and the Department of Civil Engineering. For further information and suggestions for future programs, contact Robert L. Vecellio, Department of Civil Engineering, at (334) 844-4320 or vecellio@eng.auburn.edu

Accommodation of Participants with Disabilities

It is the policy of Auburn University to provide accessibility to its programs and reasonable accommodation for persons defined as having disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Please contact us at least two weeks prior to the event so that proper consideration can be given to any special needs.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that circumstances may arise that could require you to cancel your registration, and we make every effort to accommodate your needs. Due to commitments to our instructors and facilities, the registration fee is not refundable if a registrant withdraws less than five working days before the seminar. You may substitute registrants; please notify us in advance if possible. Non-paid, no show registrants will be invoiced for the full cost of the seminar. Engineering Continuing Education reserves the right to cancel or modify any program offering, but will provide registrants the option of a full refund. Auburn University will not be responsible for expenses incurred by a registrant as the result of a cancelled or rescheduled program.

Registration

Your pre-paid registration guarantees you a seat in the seminar as well as information on any changes to the seminar. Registration on the day of the seminar will be accepted on a space available basis, but enrollment will close when the capacity of the seminar is reached. **Participants are reminded that registration is not complete until payment is received.**

Registration Form

Locating the Ellicott Mounds Along the Alabama/Florida Boundary

Andalusia, AL December 3rd- December 4th, 2009

Please print or type; register one person per form; photocopy if more forms are needed.

Name _____ Last Four Digits of SS# _____

Employer _____ Position _____

DOT Division/Bureau _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Fee: \$150.00

Payment by: Check (Payable to Auburn University)
 Visa MasterCard American Express Discover P.O. # _____

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder's Name _____

Signature _____

Return Registration Form and Payment to:

Engineering Continuing Education
217 Ramsay Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849-5375
Phone 1-800-446-0382 or (334) 844-4370
Fax (334) 844-5715
www.engce.auburn.edu

Are you an Auburn Alumnus? Yes No

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