

Memorandum
Department of Planning & Public Works



To: Planning and Public Works Committee
From: Aimee Nassif, Planning and Development Services Director
Date: June 24, 2008
RE: **Nomination of Dennis Hayden for Leonard Blake-Chesterfield Ancient History Award**

Summary

At the May 15, 2008 meeting of Landmarks Preservation Committee, the Committee voted unanimously to nominate Mr. Dennis Hayden for the Leonard Blake Chesterfield Ancient History Award.

Mark Leech of the Landmarks Preservation Committee will be attending the meeting of Planning and Public Works Committee to provide further information on this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee E. Nassif
Planning and Development Services Director

Cc: Michael G. Herring, City Administrator
Rob Heggie, City Attorney
Michael O. Geisel, Director of Planning and Public Works



ANCIENT HISTORY AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Date: January 23, 2008

**Name of Nominee: Dennis M. Hayden,
President of Hayden Homes, Inc.
Address: 7 The Pines Court, Ste. A ,
MO 63017
Phone #: 314-434-5820**

**Submitted By: Mark W. Leach
Email: leachmrk@charter.net
Address: 1608 Ansonborough Dr.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Phone #: 314-313-5715**

Description of accomplishment or action and why you believe this individual merits this award.

Prior to construction of the Countryside at Chesterfield subdivision in 1993, Dennis M. Hayden, home developer, reported the presence of between 50-75 artifact looters actively digging on the property to Chesterfield Police. Furthermore, he contacted archaeologists at the University of Missouri – Columbia to alert them to a possible prehistoric Native American site and to inquire about the costs of conducting an archaeological study. Hayden Homes, Inc. then funded a major archaeological excavation of the site. The excavations uncovered a large 4,000 year old village at the site, which greatly contributed to our understanding of Chesterfield's ancient history. The site is one of the earliest examples of people living in the same village, year round, over a number of years. In honor of Dennis Hayden's meritorious actions, archaeologists officially named the site The Hayden Site.

The Hayden Site:

- is featured in the City of Chesterfield's book, A Guide to Chesterfield's Ancient History.
- was featured on the Missouri Archaeology Month poster, which hung in classrooms throughout the state.
- has been the subject of numerous archaeology lectures.
- is one of four Chesterfield ancient sites that are highlighted on the MAC Quest Program, a website used by fourth graders throughout Chesterfield and across the state.

Several artifacts, including a large granite axe, from the Hayden Site are included in Chesterfield's Ancient History Exhibit, which is just outside the City Council Chambers.

Had it not been for Mr. Hayden, this important prehistoric Native American archaeological site would have been lost. Mr. Hayden should be recognized and commended for his actions and is very deserving of this award.