

Alabama Archaeological Society

Stones & Bones

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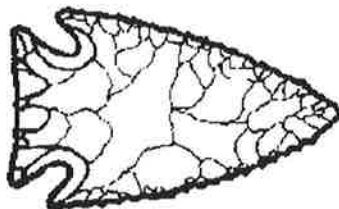
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Excavation on the Alabama River

During the months of February and March, archaeologists working for Panamerican Consultants, Inc. excavated a site adjacent to the US 31 bridge over the Alabama River near Montgomery. The excavation was headed up by Project Manager Paul Jackson and Field Archaeologist Greg Mikell.

With the help of a crew of 15, Panamerican uncovered features and artifacts dating from the Early Archaic (6,000 B.C.) to the 20th Century. The main occupation of the site dates to the Middle and Late Woodland Period (A.D. 300 - A.D. 900). There is a Mississippian (A.D. 1,000) component isolated within the site, but this has yet to be analyzed. Some of the artifacts recovered date to the Early Archaic, but this material is scattered and sporadic, indicating only a temporary occupation.

The historic components of the site include parts of the old road, concrete posts, old fencelines, and the like. An old ferry is still present at the site, sunk near the US 31 bridge. This ferry was the only way across the Alabama River in this vicinity until the bridge was built in

the 1920's, when the ferry service was discontinued. Panamerican Consultants will also be conducting all of the historical documentation, required on the US 31 bridge.

No conclusions have been reached as of yet regarding this site and its importance in helping us to understand the people that once lived in this part of Montgomery and Elmore Counties. At this point however, it is possible to state that people were not being preyed upon by panthers and bears, protecting themselves with "projection points", as was mistakenly reported in the *Montgomery Advertiser* (March 18, 1999, page 1A). It is also important to note that there were no human remains recovered from the site, again mistakenly reported to be present by the *Montgomery Advertiser*. Aside from this, once the main analysis of the site is completed, our understanding of the past in this area will definitely be richer.

Article by Kathy Gilchrist based upon information provided by Paul Jackson of Panamerican Consultants, Inc.

What's Happening

Things are starting to get geared up for the Summer Meeting. The Summer Meeting will be



Photograph showing the excavation on the Alabama River, near the US 31 bridge.
(Photo Courtesy of Paul Jackson)

held at Fort Morgan Historic Park in Gulf Shores on Saturday, June 26, 1999. Tentatively the plan is to both tour and work on the excavation at Fort Morgan in the morning. After a lunch break, there will be a workshop on Paleo and Archaic lithics of Alabama in the afternoon. This workshop is a hands-on thing so please bring your collections with you. More information about the Summer Meeting will be forthcoming in later issues of *Stones and Bones*.

Chapter News

East Alabama Chapter

The next meeting of the East Alabama Chapter is on Tuesday, April 20, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the Alabama Power

Company Auditorium, at 230N Gay Street in Auburn.

Huntsville Chapter

On February 23, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. in the Huntsville Public Library, the Huntsville Chapter sponsored a presentation given by Victor Thompson. He spoke on Mississippian ceremonial activity at the Irene Mound Site in Savannah, Georgia. This is a Mississippian Mound site (A.D. 1000 to A.D. 1450) which was excavated in the 1940's. Recently, the University of Georgia has been contracted by the National Park Service to conduct a reanalysis of the Irene materials. Specifically, Mr. Thompson spoke of his involvement in the reanalysis of the ceramic assemblage from the site.

The Huntsville Chapter encourages all members of the Chapter to please come to the meetings, even if you haven't been in a while. The Chapter has a variety of speakers planned.

Cullman Chapter

The Cullman Chapter met on March 18, 1999, at the Cullman County Library. Mr. Charles Hubbert was on hand to discuss the Paleolithic. The Cullman Chapter encourages everyone to come to the meetings and to bring a friend.

Please Help!

The Redstone Arsenal Staff Archaeologist, Beverly Curry, is seeking the help of anyone who lived on the land of the Redstone Arsenal before it was sold to the Government in the 1940's. Anyone, whether they lived on the land or not, who can describe the homes, farms, and way of life would be contributing valuable information. Beverly is looking for information such as: the community stores, cash crops and food crops, obligations of tenant farmers, and the origin of the residents (where they originally came from). Also, most of the headstones in the cemeteries are missing. Beverly would like to record as many names as possible of the people buried in these cemeteries.

Beverly is working to preserve the history of the area before the arsenal was built. If you think you can help or know someone who might be able to, please call! You may not like to talk to machines, but if Beverly is not in, she asks that you PLEASE leave your name and number so that she can get back to you. The number is:

Beverly Curry (256)313-2198

AAS Web Page

Discover more about the Alabama Archaeological Society on the World Wide Web. Announcing the inauguration of an AAS Web

page, created by the AAS Webmaster Mr. Joe Watkins. Point your browser to:

<http://www.gulfmart.com/org/aas.htm>

Donations Received

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Moore made a donation to both the **Public Education Fund** and the **Edward C. Mahan Fund** in memory of Bob Dabney, Preston Trousdale, and Marilee Ellis.

Your donations are greatly appreciated!!!

Donations can be made to the grant programs any time during the year. Donations to the Stephen B. Wimberly Scholarship Fund provide the financial support necessary for the Student Scholarship program, while donations to the Edward C. Mahan Fund are used to fund research grants. Funds for the Public Education grants are provided by the Public Education Special Projects Fund.

Please send your donations to:

AAS
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
Moundville, AL 35474

Current Fund Balances

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Wimberly Scholarship Fund | \$602.50 |
| Edward C. Mahan Fund | 295.00 |
| Public Education Fund | 494.00 |



AAS New Members

Kandi Detwiler, Research Labs of Archaeology,
Chapel Hill, NC

1998 Renewals

Douglas E. Jones, Tuscaloosa AL

1999 Renewals

David Allison, Tucker GA
William O. Autry Jr., Elkhart IN
Claytone T. Bell III, Dothan AL
Wayne C.J. Boyko, Fayetteville NC
Loren D. Bredeson, Northport AL
William A. Childress, New York NY
Beverly Curry, Huntsville AL
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Dumas, Tequesta FL
H. Blaine Ensor, Memphis TN
Phillip Johnson, Huntsville AL
William C. Johnson, Pittsburgh PA
Terry Lolley, Northport AL
Robert Mainfort, Fayetteville AR
Walter R. Peterson, Huntsville AL
Michael C. Pope, Mobile AL
Mark A. Rees, Norman OK
Orval E. Shinn, Pleasanton KS
Statae Historical Society of Wisconsin,
Madison, WI

2000 Renewals

Jim W. Parris, Adamsville TN
Mark Stevens, Waverly AL



HAPPY EASTER

FROM THE *STONES & BONES*
STAFF

Deadlines

The staff here at *Stones and Bones* would like to thank all of you who have been sending information that you wish to have published in the newsletter. We would like to make you aware of some new deadlines for inclusion of such items. The newsletter is now mailed on the 5th of the month, therefore any information that you wish to be included must get to us by no later than the 20th of previous month. For example: you wish to announce your chapter meeting on the 15th of June, have the information to us no later than the 20th of May. You can send us the information you wish to be included in any of the following ways:

snail mail: **Stones and Bones**
Troy State University
40 Eldridge Hall
Troy, AL 36082

email: **anthro@trojan.troyst.edu**

phone: **(334)670-3638**
(during business hours)

fax: **(334)670-3706**

Available Publications

Available Issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Vol. 20-31, each issue (<i>two issues per volume</i>) | \$3.50pp |
| Vol. 32 & up, each issue (<i>two issues per volume</i>) | \$6.00pp |
| <i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations (Journal of Alabama Archaeology)</i> | |
| Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint..... | \$7.50pp |
| <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama</i> | |
| Special Publication 2 | \$6.00pp |
| <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i> | |
| Special Publication 3 | \$8.00pp |
| <i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types</i> | \$15.00pp |
| <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i> by Lively, Long, and Josselyn | \$3.00pp |

Membership

The form below may be used for any or all of the following: applying for membership, payment of annual membership dues, change of address, or donations. Please be sure to print your name and address clearly, and check the appropriate boxes. All checks should be made payable to: **Alabama Archaeological Society**. Send the membership form and/or publication orders to:

Alabama Archaeological Society
Archaeological Services
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park
Moundville, AL 35474

The Alabama Archaeological Society Membership Form

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP

☐ ANNUAL DUES PAYMENT

☐ CHANGE OF ADDRESS

☐ DONATIONS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

☐ Life (individual).....\$240.00**

☐ Sustaining (individual).....\$20.00

☐ Joint Life (husband & wife).....\$300.00

☐ Sustaining (husband & wife).....\$25.00

☐ Annual (individual).....\$20.00

☐ Annual (institutional).....\$17.00

☐ Annual Family (husband, wife,
children under 18).....\$15.00

☐ Associate (students under 18).....\$9.00

☐ Steven B. Wimberly Scholarship Fund* \$ _____

☐ Edward C. Mahan Research Fund* \$ _____

☐ Public Education Special Projects Fund* \$ _____

*All donations are tax deductible.

**Residents of foreign countries, including Canada and Mexico, please add: \$2.00 for Annual Individual, Institutional, or Associate; \$20.00 for Life; and \$25.00 for Joint Life



STONES & BONES
NEWSLETTER

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