

Alabama Archaeological Society

Associate Editors
Bart Henson
Dorothy Luke

STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

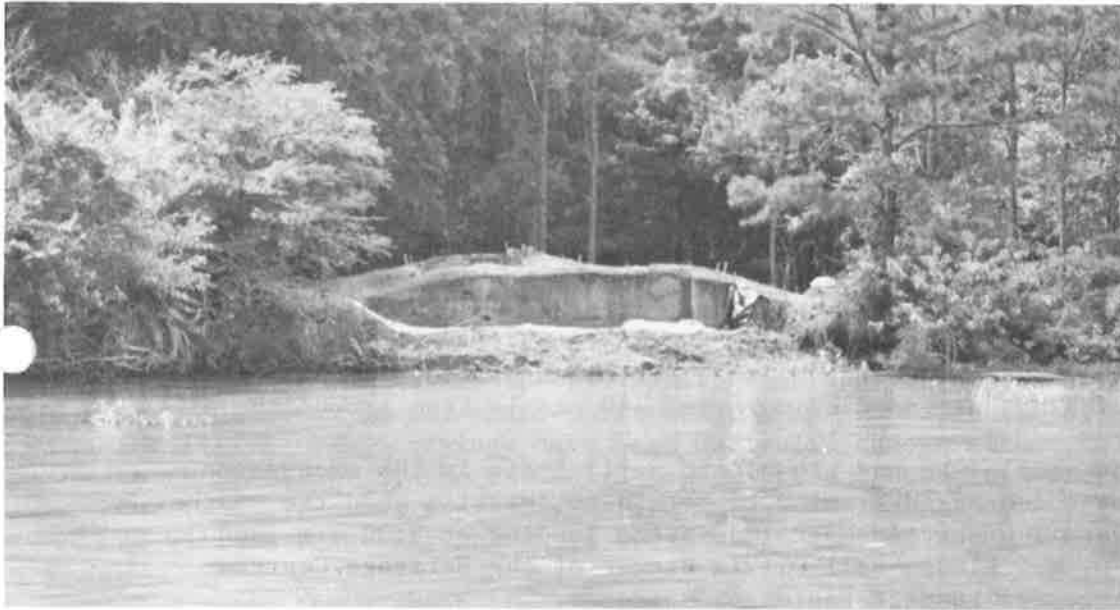
Editor
Amos J. Wright
2602 Green Mountain Rd.
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Volume 26

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Number 7

SNODGRASS SITE—JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA



Site of AAS Summer Meeting 30 Jun 84. Mound as seen from the Tenn. River. Wave erosion has caused damage, but archaeologists expect to recover significant data. See story on Page 2. (Photos by O. D. Hartley.)

Alabama Archaeological Society members and the University of Alabama Field Crew inspect mound excavations. View is toward the river. Pits near the center were filled with water from rain the previous night.



SUMMER MEETING

The Alabama Archaeological Society held its annual summer meeting on Saturday, June 30, at the SNODGRASS Site in Jackson County. The meeting was hosted by the University of Alabama's Office of Archaeological Research and the Scottsboro-Jackson County Heritage Center.

The Snodgrass Site is a village and mound site on an island in the Tennessee River downstream of the Bellefonte Nuclear Power Plant. Access to the site was provided by shuttle boat, courtesy of the hosts.

Students of the University of Alabama Archaeological Field School, under the direction of Dr. Richard Krause, have focused their attention, since early June, on a Mississippian Period platform mound being rapidly eroded by wave action from the river. Heavy rains during the night precluded excavation activities, so society members enjoyed an orientation lecture and site tour by Dr. Krause, a visit to the student camp site, and views of the site and island from the river—afforded by the University's newly acquired houseboat which serves as a support craft for the project. The day's activities were concluded with a delicious barbecue dinner/social in Scottsboro which was attended by more than 50 people from around the state.

For the many people who had planned to participate in the excavation, Dr. Krause has extended an invitation to return to the site when the weather is more favorable. The shuttle boat leaves the landing at 8:00 a.m. and returns at 5:00 p. m. Please call Olivia Brewer of the Heritage Center—259-6801 to arrange for transportation on weekends.

Editors

DEATH

The Alabama Archaeological Society was saddened to learn in June of the recent death of Mr. J. Andrew Douglas of Mobile. Mr. Douglas has been most generous in his support of this Society and its various projects, both as a member and a contributor. We express our sympathy to his family and friends at this time.

Editors

BELIZE

International Expeditions, Inc. has offered the Alabama Archaeological Society membership an archaeological tour of Belize (formerly known as British Honduras). Belize, the eastern frontier of the "Maya Heartland", gave rise to one of the most outstanding New World civilizations. Virtually unexplored, this small Mesoamerican country possesses numerous jungle-veiled archaeological sites such as Cuello, Altun Ha and Lamanai. Lush tropical rain forest, subtropical savannahs, mangrove swamps and the blue Caribbean create an ecological diversity which nurtured this accomplished civilization. Belize is a natural wonder teeming with over 500 species of exotic birds, 250 varieties of orchids and is one of the last stands of the elusive jaguar. Five-foot iguanas plunging into rivers - screaming howler monkeys - mist-enveloped caves and cascading mountain waterfalls are all a part of an unforgettable expedition into the undisturbed homeland of the Maya.

The Belize expedition will consist of an eight-day venture with days two through seven spent traveling by Land Rovers to remote archaeological sites throughout the countryside with archaeologists serving as guides. Days one and eight will be spent traveling to and from Belize, with time available for shopping and sightseeing in Belize City.

You will experience a variety of hotel and lodge accommodations. All are the best Belize has to offer, with fans and private bath facilities, except at Blancaneaux Lodge, where those staying in the lodge itself will share bath facilities. The lodgings have been carefully chosen with consideration given to their location, the natural surroundings and comfort. They were selected due to their close proximity to the archaeological sites. Please be aware that we will be traveling in remote areas where tourism has not been developed.

At the present time, International Expeditions, Inc. has offered the A.A.S. a group rate of \$995.00 per person. This price includes round-trip airfare from Miami (air travel from Alabama to Miami will be arranged once we know how many will join us and when the trip will occur); all scheduled transportation in Belize; all transfers, portage, service charges, and taxes; all hotel and lodge accommodations; all meals; all archaeological site permits.

We have reserved two potential dates for 1984: October 21 and November 18. In the event that we have a large response from members desiring to attend the expedition, the price of the trip is subject to decrease and additional available dates may be offered.

In order for the Alabama Archaeological Society's Belize expedition to be organized and confirmed as early as possible, please return the enclosed questionnaire to McDonald Brooms in Montgomery by August 15. The questionnaire is for planning purposes only. It does not obligate you. Members returning the questionnaire will be mailed a color brochure on Belize, an itinerary of the trip, a reservation form, and further information regarding departure date and cost. Members submitting the reservation form shall receive complete pre-departure

information, detailed information pertaining to the unique archaeological, cultural, and natural history of Belize as well as a bibliography for further reading. In addition, information regarding travel from Alabama to Miami will be included.

I am hopeful that member interest in the Belize expedition will be high. A successful initial trip will ensure future expeditions tailored for our membership.

McDonald Brooms
Montgomery

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT BELIZE

- Belize, a small country south of the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, within the tropic of Cancer, is approximately the size of Massachusetts.
- Originally inhabited by the Maya Indians and later known as the British Honduras Colony, Belize has been an independent nation since 1981.
- The great barrier reef, stretching 190 miles along the Caribbean coastline, is the second longest barrier reef in the world and the largest in the Western Hemisphere.
- The climate is subtropical. Temperatures average in the low 80's during the day, while evening temperatures average 70 degrees. Mountain temperatures are expectantly cooler, dropping as low as 40 degrees on a winter's night.
- Low-lying, parallel limestone ridges (spines of fossil coral reefs) make up the northern half of Belize. The Maya Mountains of the south are a paleozoic mass of granites and metamorphosed sandstone, laced with crystalline streams and waterfalls.
- The natural vegetation, tropical broadleaf forest, covers 90 percent of the country. The great mangrove swamps of the north give way to pine savannahs on the western plateau.
- There are approximately 140,000 people in Belize, half of whom live in cities along the coast. The population is a mixture of African, European and Maya descent, but because of the country's long status as a British colony, the primary language is English.
- There are hundreds of unexplored caves in the limestone hills between the Maya Mountains and the plain. Believed to be the entrance to the underworld, the ancient Maya preferred those caves with difficult access for their ritual descent down to Xibalba.

SUMMER 1984 PRICE LIST

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Available Back Issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology Vols. 13-18, Price \$1.00

Volume & No.-Date

Contents

14(2)-Dec. 1968

Burns, Long, and Josselyn: Lively Complex Tools on Other Than Pebbles - Part I
Henson and Wright: An Aboriginal Sandstone Quarry in Lamar County, Alabama
Wesley: The Broken Rock Site

15(2)-Dec. 1969

Hooper: Three Finger Technology - Holding Pebble Tools
Jolly: Evidence of Aboriginal Trade in Late Prehistoric Times

Available Back Issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology Vols. 20-28, Price \$2.50
(Members) -- \$5.00 (Nonmembers)

Volume & No.-Date

Contents

20(1)-June 1974

DeJarnette and Walthall: Copena Burial Caves
Grace: The Boozer Site (1Ca5), Calhoun County, Alabama
Gustafson: Further Study of an Unusual Laminar Ax
Moebe: Cave Springs Site (Mg65)
Pendleton: A Ceremonial Tubular Pipe

21(1)-June 1975

Burns and Jeter: Lithic Technology and Prehistoric Behavior Patterns in the
Coosa Valley Area: A Framework for a Research Design
DeJarnette, Walthall, and Wimberly: Archaeological Investigations in the Butta-
hatchee River Valley, Lamar County, Alabama
Heldman and Ray: A Late Historic Burial in Montgomery County, Alabama
Stowe: Pot Sherds and a Brass Kettle: Continuity and Change at 1Mb82

21(2)-Dec. 1975

DeJarnette, Walthall, and Wimberly: Archaeological Investigations in the Butta-
hatchee River Valley II: Excavations at Stucks Bluff Rock Shelter
Knight: Some Observations Concerning Plant Materials and Aboriginal Smoking in
Eastern North America
Olah: An Investigation of Ethnographic and Archaeological Political Structure in
Southeastern United States
Waseikov: A Selected Bibliography for Paleoethnobotany

22(1)-June 1976

Choccolocco Archaeological Society: The Cheatwood Site - 1Ca6, Calhoun County,
Alabama
Curren: Prehistoric and Early Historic Occupation of the Mobile Bay and Mobile
Delta Area of Alabama with an Emphasis on Subsistence
DeJarnette and Knight: LaGrange

22(2)-Dec. 1976

Henson: A Southeastern Ceremonial Complex Petroglyph Site
Nielsen: Archaeological Salvage Excavations at Site 1Au28

Available Back Issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology Vols. 20-28, Price \$2.50
(Members) -- \$5.00 (Nonmembers)

Volume & No.-Date

Contents

27(1)-June 1981

Bond: Experimental Heat Treatment of Cedar Creek Cherts

Ford: Time and Temper in the North Central Hills of Mississippi

Knight and Adams: A Voyage to the Mobile and Tomeh in 1700 with Notes on the Interior of Alabama

27(2)-Dec. 1981

Gustafson and Pigott: A Tale of Two Sites or Big Sandy Begins to Speak

Johnson and Morrow: Thermal Alteration and Fort Payne Chert

Little and Curren: Site 1Ce308: A Protohistoric Site on the Upper Coosa River in Alabama

28(1)-June 1982

Parker: Archaeological Test Investigations at 1Su7: The Fort Tombecbe Site

28(2)-Dec. 1982

Hulse: James W. Cambron

Knight: A Repoussé Copper Plate from Northeast Alabama

Kwas: Bannerstones: A Historical Overview

Lauro: The Edgefield Scraper and Waller Knife, Early Archaic Tools from the Pearl River Drainage, Mississippi

McCulloch: Middle Woodland and Early Late Woodland Phases in the Lower Tennessee River Valley

29(1)-June 1983

Futato and Solis: Archaeology at Site 1Ja78, the B.B. Comer Bridge Site

29(2)-Dec. 1984

Barber: Another Look at Late Holocene Sea Level Oscillations in Mobile Bay, Alabama

Holstein: A Diagnostic Late Paleo/Early Archaic Artifact from the Upper Coosa Drainage, the Edgefield Scraper

Lloyd, Bense, and Davis: Tallahatta Quartzite Quarries in the Escambia River Drainage

Walling and Schrader: The Dry Branch Site, 1Sh42, and the Late Gulf Formational in the Central Coosa River Drainage

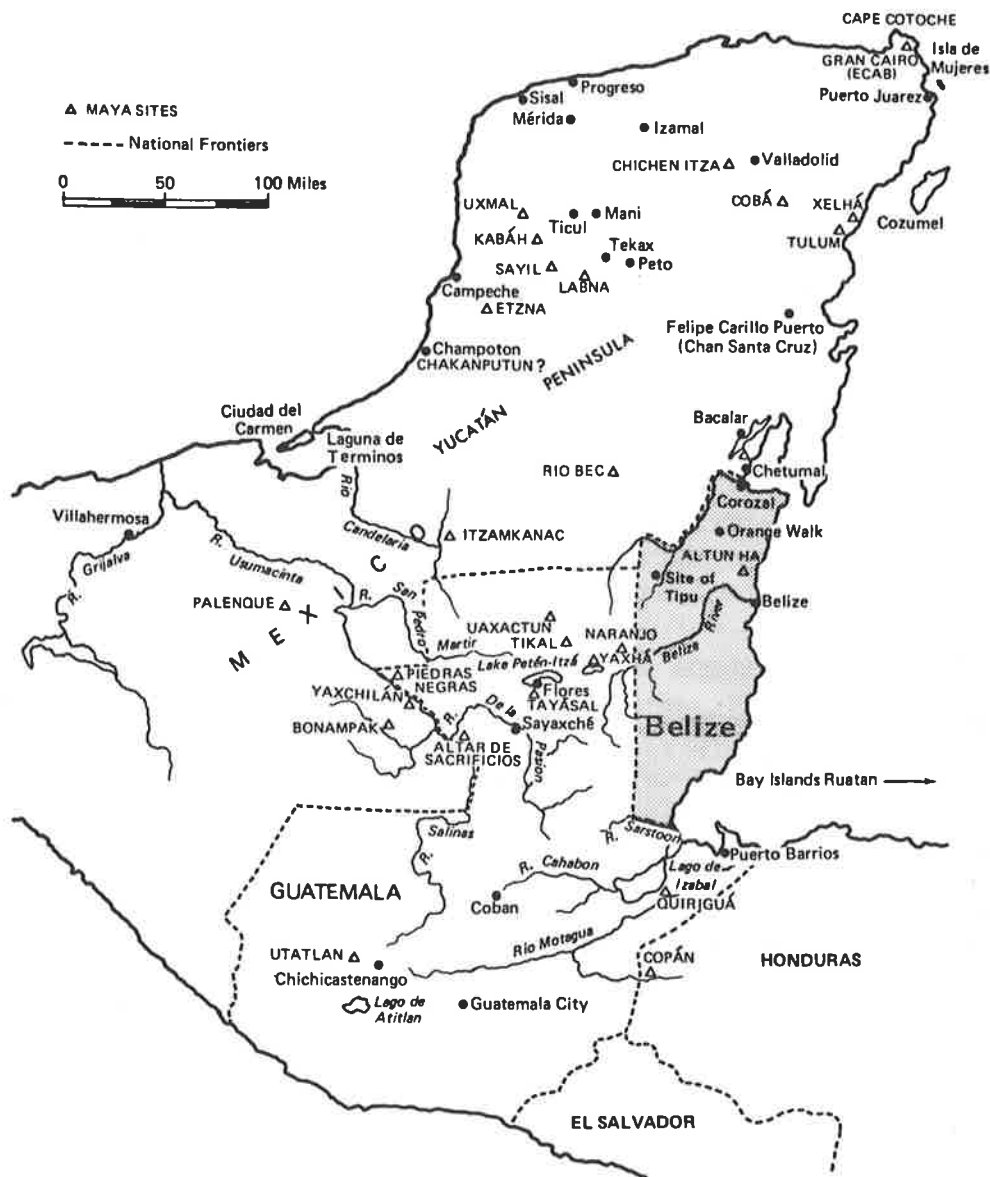
11

OTY

PUBLICATION TITLE (If Journal, List Date, Volume)

PRICE

TOTAL



- Archaeological research in Belize has broadened the understanding of ancient Maya settlement and subsistence as well as increased the known time span of Maya culture to 2400 B.C.

McDonald Brooms
 Montgomery

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

The speaker at the Huntsville Chapter's June meeting was Ms. Melinda Herzog, Director of the Burritt Museum on Monte Sano. Ms. Herzog, a potter, gave a most interesting presentation on southwestern pottery styles and techniques. She also discussed changes at the Burritt Museum, including a new archaeological exhibit, scheduled to open mid July.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Arts Council Conference Room, Von Braun Civic Center. For more information call Program Chairman Ken Helms at 539-0939.

Dorothy Luke
Huntsville

Muscle Shoals Chapter

The Muscle Shoals Chapter held its annual picnic supper meeting on June 11 at the Indian Mound and Museum in Florence. We grilled hamburgers furnished by the chapter, and members brought salads, covered dishes, desserts, etc. Thirty-eight members and guests attended - a record number to attend one of the chapter meetings.

After the picnic Howard King of Cullman presented a slide narration about the Bay Springs, Mississippi site survey, in which he was a member of the survey team. Bay Springs is a portion of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway. Fifty-seven archaeological sites were identified in this area, of which four were recommended for excavation.

The Muscle Shoals Chapter will not meet during July, August and September but will resume its monthly meetings in October.

Charles Moore
Florence

Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Chapter's June meeting was held at the town library. The guest speaker was Mr. Richard Walling from the Office of Archaeological Research in Moundville. Mr. Walling spoke and showed slides on Alabama archaeological excavations.

Site F-20 - Site F-20 is located off County Road 21, east of the Luxapallila Creek in northern Fayette County, Alabama. This site consists of about four distinct culture groups. The oldest evidence of human habitation at this site ranges in the Transitional Paleo period. From this period I have found two Beaver Lakes, two Judes, two Haraway Daltons, and one Greenbriar Dalton point, which might suggest only a short occupational stay here. The second oldest is an Early Archaic period. The Early Archaic Indians occupied this site longer than all the rest. I have found so far Lost Lakes, Decatur, Greenbriars, and Kirk Corner Notched points. The third oldest period is in the Middle Archaic time span. I have found some Plevnas and Benton Broad Stems from this period. The latest period at F-20 ranges from an extremely Late Archaic to an extremely Early Gulf Formation. The only thing I can identify this period with is a very small amount of grit-tempered pottery. At Site F-20 I have also found several provisional point types and other artifacts.

The lithic material found on Site F-20 ranges from Tuscaloosa chert, Fort Payne chert, Bangor chert, quartz, and hematite sandstone. The most abundant material is heat-treated Tuscaloosa chert, which ranges in color from red, white, and gray. All of the Bangor chert was either banded or gray in color. The quartz found on F-20 is either coarse crude to glassy white in texture and color. The Fort Payne chert is of the gray Lauderdale County variety.

J. W. Adkison
Tuscaloosa

ALABAMA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

At the Anthropology Section of the Alabama Academy of Science meeting held on March 17 in Mobile, Alabama, the following papers were presented:

Anthropology and I: Episodes in a Long Career. Asael T. Hansen, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Subsistence and Environmental Trends at a Bronze Age Village in Jordan. Mary C. Metzger, University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Evidences of Syphilis in Mound Builders' Bones: A Reappraisal. Mary Lucas Powell, Northwestern University.

Copena Mortuary Associations with Fire. Kenneth R. Turner, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa.

Late Historic Creek Artifacts from Talladega County, Alabama. Craig T. Sheldon, Jr., Auburn University, Montgomery.

A Description of Ceramic Rim Effigies from Southwest Alabama. Diane E. Silvia, University of South Alabama.

An Archaeological-Historical Report on a Cannon from Colonial Mobile. Richard Fuller, University of South Alabama.

The Archaeology of European-Creek Contacts in Alabama. John W. Cottier and Gregory A. Waselkov, Auburn University.

John W. Cottier
Auburn

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 13-18, each issue	\$1.00 pp
Vol. 20-24 (\$2.50 to Members)	\$5.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint, each issue	\$5.00 pp
Special Publication 1 — Fort Mitchell	\$2.00 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County, Alabama</i>	\$4.50 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$6.50 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>	\$10.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$7.50 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)	\$7.00 pp

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

SEND CHECKS TO: **MR. EUGENE FUTATO, Office of Archaeological Research**

1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

MEMBERSHIP

The coupon below may be used EITHER to APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP in the Society, or for the PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. Please be sure that your name and address are CLEARLY entered, and that appropriate boxes are checked.

TO: **THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for**

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES ☐ REPORTING OF NEW ADDRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Residents of Foreign Countries, including Canada & Mexico \$2.00 additional for Regular, Associate or Institutional Membership, \$20.00 additional for Individual Life and \$25.00 additional for Joint Life Membership)

☐ Life (Individual) \$180.00

☐ Joint Life (husband & wife) \$250.00

☐ Annual (Individual) \$9.00

☐ Annual, Family (husband, wife
and children under age 18) \$12.00

☐ Associate (Students under age 18) \$7.00

☐ Sustaining (Individual) \$15.00

☐ Sustaining (husband & wife) \$20.00

☐ Annual (Institutional) \$13.00

☐ ***Steven B. Wimberley Scholarship Fund** \$ _____

☐ *Contribution \$ _____

*** Contributions are Tax Deductible**

MAIL TO:

**MRS. BETTYE T. HENSON
SECRETARY AND TREASURER
7608 Teal Drive, S.W.
Huntsville, Alabama 35802**

Alabama Archaeological Society

Mr. Amos J. Wright
2602 Green Mountain Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

