

# Alabama Archaeological Society

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA P.O. BOX 6135, UNIVERSITY, AL. 35486

BIRMINGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
COCCOLOCCO CHAPTER  
CHOCTAWHATCHEE CHAPTER  
CULLMAN COUNTY CHAPTER  
EAST ALABAMA CHAPTER  
HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER  
MARSHALL COUNTY CHAPTER  
MAUVILLA CHAPTER  
MONTGOMERY ARCH. SOC.  
MORGAN-LIMESTONE CHAPTER  
MUSCLE SHOALS CHAPTER  
NOCCALULA ARCH. SOC.  
SELMA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOC.  
TUSCALOOSA CHAPTER

RODGER L. SCHAEFER, SECRETARY  
1414 15TH AVENUE, S.E.  
DECATUR, ALA. 35601

## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

NADB DOC # - 4,056,724

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

### EDITOR

BRITTAIN THOMPSON  
3609 MONTROSE ROAD  
MT. BROOK, ALA. 35213

### ASSOCIATE EDITORS

MR. & MRS. JERRY J. NIELSEN

### EDITORIAL BOARD

JAMES CAMBRON, MARJORIE GAY  
STEVE B. WIMBERLY, J. H. McCARY III  
E. MILTON HARRIS

### LAGRANGE BLUFF SHELTER EXCAVATIONS

A really fine time was had by all the members of the Alabama Archaeological Society who were able to take advantage of the opportunity to visit the LaGrange Bluff Shelter on June 21, 1975. Visitors were able to see the excavations in progress and hear of the excavation results thus far. David L. DeJarnette, director of the project, Jim Knight and Carlos Solis, field assistants, and the crew members, Jeff Otinger, Hank Clemmons, Roy Robinson, Bill Schmid and our own Steve Wimberly gave comprehensive explanations of the work underway.

This work, sponsored by the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama, Inc. and supported by YOUR DONATIONS, will continue until July 4, 1975. A great deal of the time thus far spent in the excavations has involved the removal of the back fill from the shelter and the uncovering of the 5 by 10-foot block isolated by Charles Hubbert during his excavations at the shelter. At the time of the June 21st visit, work was progressing on this isolated block in which has been recognized four distinct zones. The uppermost zone, Zone 1, has been completely excavated and Zone 2 is going down slowly because of the tremendous number of pits intruding the zone. As of June 21st, 31 pits had been uncovered.

It is hoped that by the end of the term that the isolated block will have been completely excavated and that progress will have been made several feet into the back of the shelter. The crew is most grateful for the financial support and assistance in the excavations given by members of the Alabama Archaeological Society.

Additional financial support is needed, however, which will enable the Archaeological Research Association to continue sponsoring archaeological work as well as paying for the LaGrange Bluff Shelter Excavations for which they have already contracted. Your donations are desperately needed to finance this work and to continue the policy set by the Research Association to finance archaeological excavations in Alabama in the name of the Alabama Archaeological Society. Remember that your donations are tax deductible, and contributing to this very worthwhile cause now will not only assist in the preservation of the past of the State of Alabama, but will also be of assistance to you next April. If each of our over 600 members gave \$5.00 each, we would be able to complete our current commitments and continue the work. You won't be sorry you helped!

JULY 1975

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

During the month of June the archaeological survey of the Gainesville and Demopolis Lake Navigation Channels was completed. To date over 45 archaeological sites have been located in the proposed construction areas. More inaccessible areas were surveyed this month with the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle and a 14 foot Boston Whaler, which enabled the crew, supervisor Ned Jenkins and Mark DeLeon, to locate and record these valuable sites.

Excavations are continuing in Jefferson County at Site 1Je34, located within the right-of-way of I-65, sponsored by the Alabama Highway Department. Blaine Ensor, and his crew Anne Wailes, Fred Posey, Alan Veasey and Mike Hartsfield, have been hard at work on this Late Woodland-Early Mississippian site. Late in the month of June a most interesting feature was encountered. This feature consists of a large pit with the sides and bottom lined with large sandstone slabs and containing two celts and a beautiful white quartz discoidal. This feature was probably originally constructed for use as a storage pit and while it may have been later used for burial purposes, the high acidity of the soil has thus far prevented the recovery of any bone material.

Work at Site 1Ra28, a bluff shelter located in the Harris Reservoir in Randolph County, Alabama, has revealed an extremely dense Lamar component coupled with Cartersville ceramics. The excavations, under the direction of John O'Hear, and his crew composed of Edward Alderson, Mark Berry, Jorge Solis, Baxter Mann, Gary Taylor, Billy Pittman, Chris Garsed and Thomas Sheffield will continue through the middle of July. This work is being sponsored by the Alabama Power Company.

The final report on the archaeological investigations at Site 6 in the proposed Choccolocco Creek Watershed at the historic site of Whitesides Mill was completed and submitted during June. This work, conducted under an agreement between the University of Alabama and the Soil Conservation Service, resulted in the recovery of a great deal of information not only about this particular mill, but general information concerning similar water powered mills in Alabama. The authors, Ben Coblentz, Jim Knight, Mark DeLeon and Carlos Solis are to be congratulated on a fine report. The drawings, ably executed by Ben, add a great deal to this report and are an invaluable aid in the understanding of the complicated workings of early mills.

(Judith Nielsen, Mound State Monument)

### SPECIAL VISITORS

Dr. Chris Peebles, of the University of Michigan, and six of his upper level graduate students visited some of the archaeological sites in Alabama during the week of June 8-14. Sites visited included the LaGrange Bluff Shelter, Mound State Monument and the Harris Reservoir excavations. Dr. Peebles is a Professor in Anthropology at the University of Michigan, under Dr. James B. Griffin, and he wrote his Ph.D. dissertation on Moundville. His dissertation, the first comprehensive study on the Moundville complex, will be published shortly and when this book becomes available your newsletter will carry all the pertinent ordering information.

## SUMMER MEETING AT SELMA ON JULY 19, 1975

Get out that red bug spray, load the family and a few interested friends and come to the summer meeting at Selma on SATURDAY, July 19th. This will be an informal meeting, where you will see the work which Roger Nance and his crew have been doing this season. Headquarters will be the Selma Holiday Inn, US 80 West. The following is a tentative program:

### REGISTRATION

Lobby, Holiday Inn, 9am until Noon

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Holiday Inn during the morning

### ACTIVITIES FOR THE DAY

Visits to sites and laboratory. Further information at registration.

### DINNER & PROGRAM by

Dr. Nance and Crew

Holiday Inn, 7pm \$6.00 per person which includes tax and tip. Reservations must be made BEFORE 10:30am, July 19th. The entree will be prepared by John English, formerly of the Elite Cafe in Montgomery.

## MOTELS IN SELMA

Holiday Inn (205)872-0461

1 person \$12-\$13, 2 persons \$16-\$18

Ramada Inn (205)875-9231

1 person \$11.50-\$12.50, 2 persons \$16-\$17

Graystone Motel (205)874-6681

1 person \$8.40, 2 persons \$12.60, 3 persons \$13.65, 4 persons \$14.70

Selma Motel (205)872-3451

1 person \$10.50, 2 persons (1 bed) \$12.60  
2 persons (2 beds) \$15.75, 3 persons \$17.85, 4 persons \$19.95

The Program Committee would appreciate knowing whether you plan to come to Selma and if you will attend the evening banquet. Cut off the bottom section of this page and forward to Mrs. Christine Wimberly prior to July 15th. This meeting promises to be both educational and enjoyable and each person attending will have ample opportunity to not only meet individuals with similar interests in the archaeology of the State of Alabama, but will also have an excellent chance to learn a great deal about archaeology and archaeological projects. Dr. Nance and his crew will be conducting personal tours of the sites currently being excavated as well as the laboratory.

---

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY SUMMER MEETING, SELMA, ALA.  
July 19, 1975, Headquarters, Holiday Inn, US 80 West

I will attend the meeting, bringing \_\_\_\_\_ members of my family and friends.  
\_\_\_\_\_ members of my group will attend the banquet at 7pm (\$6.00 per person)

I understand that I must confirm this dinner reservation and pay for it BEFORE 10:30am Saturday, July 19th.

signed \_\_\_\_\_



## SELMA AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Our 1975 field school is underway with eight students from UAB, three from Auburn University and one from the University of Delaware. This summer we are testing at least eleven sites which were located in previous surveys. Also we are surveying new ground south of Dry Cedar Creek in Lowndes, Wilcox and Butler counties. Mr. Marvin D. Jeter, who carried out much of the previous surveying for this project, is back in Selma this summer. He will be supervising excavations at half the sites to be tested, and may use the data collected for his Ph. D. dissertation (Arizona State University).

We have already completed limited excavations at three sites and are currently working on two more. Four of the sites tested so far have undisturbed deposits below the plow zone and should provide good information on Middle Woodland and Late Woodland cultures in the area. To date we have worked on or near the Alabama River flood plain. By the time of the summer meeting we will have tested sites well to the north and south, and should be finding cultural differences relating to variations in the regional environment.

Marvin, the crew and I are looking forward to the summer meeting. Throughout the day, we plan to take car loads of visitors on tours of important sites within the survey area. Our laboratory at Alabama Lutheran Junior College and Academy (our home for the summer) will be set up with displays of artifacts and our tours will conclude there.

(Dr. C. Roger Nance, UAB)

### MAKING THIS WORK POSSIBLE...

has depended (and is depending) on your generous donations to the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama, Inc. Your Research Association needs your help in supporting this very important work. The Research Association is sponsoring not only the Selma Site Survey but the recently concluded excavations at the LaGrange Bluff Shelter and such professional excavations are impossible without public support. All donations large and small are welcomed by the Research Association. Don't just talk about archaeology do something constructive to assist in this most important work.

---

Mrs. Christine Wimberly

4631 Old Looney Mill Road

Birmingham, Alabama 35243

## A RIVER BOAT TOWN ON THE TENNESSEE RIVER

Some interesting information on one of North Alabama's frontier towns is recorded in the Winter 1974 issue of Tennessee Valley Perspective, a TVA publication. The information is some of that gathered on the 19th century river town of Bellefonte, near Scottsboro, by Dr. Roger Nance and others. Under a TVA contract a survey was made to determine what roll Bellefonte played in the early history of North Alabama and what it's actual size and activities may have been.

The town was incorporated in 1820 in flatboat and stage coach days and was the first county seat of Jackson County. The only buildings left are a two-story log house and the old stage coach inn. The investigators were able to locate foundation remains of numerous other buildings, however, and a layout of the streets and major buildings was made possible through this research. The courthouse was burned at the close of the Civil War, destroying the early records of the area. As a result of this survey, most of the remaining information has been located and re-assembled, thus preserving another valuable segment of local and state history.

(William H. Wesley, Huntsville Chapter)

## MUSEUM HAS RECORD TRAFFIC

The Indian Mound and Museum in Florence had a record volume of 1110 visitors during the month of May. Especially welcome were Dr. John A. Walthall and his class in Archaeology from the University of Alabama and Eugene Futato and the members of the Tuscaloosa Chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society who visited during May.

Many of the artifacts in the Museum are on loan from members of the Muscle Shoals Chapter as well as other members of the State Society. A number of additional artifacts have recently been added to the Museum displays.

The Mound and Museum are operated by the Florence Historical Board which is an agency of the City of Florence. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00am until noon and 1:00pm until 4:00pm.

(Charles E. Moore, Muscle Shoals Chapter)

## BACK ISSUES OF JOURNAL AVAILABLE

Limited numbers of the following back issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology are currently available:

Volume XIII, No. 1, June, 1967

Volume XIV, No. 1, June, 1968

Volume XV, No. 1, June 1969

Volume XIII, No. 2, December, 1967

Volume XIV, No. 2, December, 1968

Volume XV, No. 2, December, 1969

To order copies of these issues, please send a check made payable to the Alabama Archaeological Society to David L. DeJarnette, Box 66, Moundville, Al. 35474. Journal issues are \$3.00 each, with no additional charge for postage.

### A GIFT FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS EVERYTHING!

A 22 pound replica of the Liberty Bell!!! Standing two feet high, prices range from \$1,400 for the high gloss "gold" to \$885 for the black finish. If you prefer a 2,080 pound bell, and have room for the full size replica of the Liberty Bell (12 feet in circumference around the lip), the price will be \$11,000.

A news release from London states that the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, oldest bell foundry in Britain and where the original Liberty Bell was cast, will cast exactly 2,400 working replicas for our Bicentennial next year. This number is significant in that it represents one bell for each month of American independence. These replicas will have a rich throaty sound and will not be cracked as the original bell is. Our Liberty Bell has been cracked several times, the first soon after arrival in this country in 1753 when it cracked during testing. It was recast by Pass and Stow of Philadelphia. In July 1776, it rang out to proclaim the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

In 1777, Colonial Patriots hastily hid the bell when the British Troops arrived at Philadelphia. It remained hidden in Allentown, Pennsylvania until 1778, when it was rehung in Independence Hall where it was rung on every ceremonial occasion. In 1835, the story goes, it cracked again while tolling for the funeral of Supreme Court Justice John Marshall. Repaired several times, in 1846 it cracked irreparably on Washington's Birthday --for historical reasons, it has never been recast.

Whitechapel Bell Foundry has been casting bells for over 200 years in the same east London building. Basically the technique has not changed in all these years. Bell-shaped inner and outer molds are fitted together and the space between is filled with molten bell metal.

A Boston organization plans to market the Bicentennial replicas. The news story did not say (and I wonder) if the bells will be inscribed with the slogan -- Proclaim Liberty throughout all the Land to all the Inhabitants Thereof.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

### UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AT MOUNDVILLE

Ten students from the University of Alabama, under the direction of Dr. Richard Krause, are testing 1Tu50 as part of a broader summer field school program sponsored by the Department of Anthropology. The site lies on the Black Warrior River on land recently leased to Mound State Monument by Mr. Charles Snyder and Mr. Conrad Wesselhoeft. The area of Site 1Tu50 contains an aboriginal mound and associated village debris of Mississippian affiliation. The mound is being sampled to obtain information on its age, cultural affiliation, mode of construction and use. Future research will attempt to correlate the mound with adjacent village debris. Visitors are welcome but should be warned that the road providing access to the site runs through an area packed with gasoline storage tanks, hence smoking is prohibited.

(Dr. Richard Krause, Dept. of Anth.)



## 1975 (SIXTEENTH) DIG FUND DRIVE

We're digging!!! As announced, and as those who took advantage of the invitation to visit the LaGrange Bluff Shelter on June 21 know, Dave DeJarnette and his splendid seven-man crew got underway June 3 on completing the excavation of the bluff shelter. All of us are itching to learn that the really thrilling potential of this dig might be realized, and we should know shortly. The very appreciated donors to help take care of the dig finances during the past month are:

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Gay, Standing Rock, our truly hard-working Officers and Directors, with this fine check increase to TWELVE their consecutive donations.

Lively-Long-Josselyn Pebble Tool Papers make their second remittance this year from the sales of these papers to the credit of the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund.

Nicholas H. Holmes, Jr., Mobile, a faithful and generous contributor over the years, sends along his ELEVENTH greatly appreciated contribution.

Mrs. Jack D. McSpadden, Birmingham, very liberally evidences her continued interest in our archaeological activities with her FOURTEENTH consecutive check.

Mr. and Mrs. James H. McCary, III, Birmingham, CHARTER DONORS and continuous personal and financial supporters of our Dig Funds bring their number of consecutive donations to SIXTEEN.

Mr. William M. Spencer, Birmingham, CHARTER DONOR and hardworking president of the Research Association brings to SIXTEENTH his total number of consecutive contributions to our archaeological program.

So far this year we can happily report nearly \$500.00 in subscriptions, and since we have an extremely long way to go to meet the amount for which we have contracted (the cost of digging, like everything else, isn't what it used to be) we are most hopeful that many, many more of our financial supporters will come to the aid of their Society by making use of the coupon at the bottom of the inside cover of this or previous newsletters. We truly need your help!!!!

## 8th ANNUAL STATEWIDE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

This conference will begin on Friday morning, July 18 at 10:00am in the House Chamber of the State Capitol and will be in session through Saturday, July 19th at noon. One of the highlights of the meeting will be the presentation of Distinguished Service Awards to several organizations and individuals nominated by the Board of Advisors and selected by the Commission members. Plan to attend this meeting and then slip on over to Selma for the Summer Meeting of the Society; in this way you can hear about preservation and see it in action, all in one extremely enjoyable weekend!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

### NEW MEMBERS DURING JUNE

Martha W. Carter, 1333 Ann Street, Rockingham, NC 28379

Russell L. Collier, 5375 Duke Street, Apt. 1517, Alexandria, Va. 22304 (Family)

Tad Braden, 2791 Okawana Court, Marietta, Ga. 30062

Katherine Southard, 51 Forest Circle, Warrior, Al. 35180 (Associate)

### MEMBERS LOST

Frank Kent Reilly, formerly of Auburn, is still among the missing members as is Joseph R. Beicher, formerly of Milledgeville, Ga. Any assistance in locating these two will be gratefully appreciated. We have also received returned newsletters for Craig T. Sheldon, formerly of Cartersville, Ga., and Gaye Brock of Vernon, Alabama.

### CHAPTER NEWS

Choccolocco Chapter. Some really sad news was received this month from the Choccolocco Chapter. At the May 15th meeting in the Regar Museum, after lengthy discussion, a vote was taken and it was unanimously decided to suspend meetings until further notice because of low membership and lack of interest.

Cullman County Chapter meeting on June 16th at 7:30 in City Hall featured a film by Dr. L. S. B. Leahey entitled "The Dawn of Man." They also proudly announce that the dedication of the Colonel Cullman Home is scheduled for August 31, 1975. As reported earlier, the chapter will have a room set aside in the Home for archaeological and historical displays and the chapter is working hard to get everything set up for the dedication.

Huntsville Chapter met in the 2nd floor auditorium of the Huntsville Public Library at 7:00pm on June 24th. This meeting featured Bart Henson who gave a fine talk on the Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter. The regular meeting is held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the public library and everyone is invited to attend the meetings.

Muscle Shoals Chapter had its annual summer picnic at the Temple Mound in Florence at 6:00pm on June 9th. After a very fine dinner, the membership was treated to a talk by Jim Knight and Carlos Solis, field assistants to David L. DeJarnette at the LaGrange excavations.

### SUMMER MUST BE A BAD TIME FOR NEWS

Last June we had only four chapters reporting and this year there are only four. Perhaps chapter secretaries take their vacations during this month and are unable to send in the reports early. We are pleased that both the Huntsville and Choccolocco chapters have sent in reports for each month during 1975 and we really wish we could say the same for our other chapters. Secretaries, how about making a special effort next month... we want to know what you are doing!



## THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Following are the objectives stated in our Constitution, slightly modified for emphasis: To promote informed interest in the study of Archaeology in Alabama and neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research in such ways as surface scouting, mapping, marking, studying and especially reporting; to promote and support professionally directed excavations and discourage unsupervised "digging"; to promote the conservation of archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws prescribing such; to oppose the sale of antiquities, and the manufacture and sale of fraudulent artifacts; to encourage and develop a better understanding of archaeology through providing Newsletters, Journals, Chapter and State meetings, helpful associates and good fellowship; to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional; and perhaps most importantly, to give everyone the opportunity to "do something about archaeology" through the accomplishment and enjoyment of these high aims.

The Society needs and welcomes as members, all persons whose ideals are in accord with the objectives set forth above. Active members receive the JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members and their activities, also State, national and worldwide events of archaeological importance.



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 checkmarks appear in applicable blanks!

----- cut here -----

To THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for

\_\_\_\_\_ New Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ Payment of Annual Dues  
\_\_\_\_\_ Reporting of New Address

MAIL TO:

Rodger L. Schaefer  
1414 - 15th Avenue, S. E.  
Decatur, Ala. 35601

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS, ROUTE or P.O. BOX: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

_____ Life (Individual) .....	\$120.00	_____ Associate (Students under age 22) ...	\$ 4.00
_____ Joint Life (husband & wife) .....	150.00	_____ Sustaining (individual) .....	10.00
_____ Annual (individual) .....	7.00	_____ Sustaining (husband & wife).....	12.00
_____ Annual, Family (husband, wife and children under age 18) .....	8.00	_____ Annual (institutional) .....	7.00

(Residents of Foreign Countries, including Canada & Mexico: \$1.00 additional for Regular, Associate or Institutional membership, \$10.00 additional for Individual Life and \$15.00 additional for Joint Life Membership)

----- cut here -----

## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

This Association, an affiliate of our State Society, is a non-profit corporation, whose aim and purpose is to finance archaeological advancement in Alabama, the FIRST State to provide such financial support through popular subscription. All contributions to this association are deductible in making your income tax return (if, of course, you itemize your deductions). Your check should be made payable to the association as shown above.

The coupon below, after being completed to show information in each blank, should accompany your contribution, to insure proper credit and acknowledgment.

----- cut here -----

To THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Mr. Wm. M. Spencer, Suite 1510, First National - Southern Natural Bldg.,  
1900 - 5th Ave. No., Birmingham, AL 35203

University, AL 35485

P.O. Box 932

Vernon J. Knight

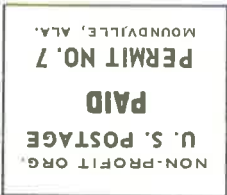


MOUNDVILLE, ALA. 35474

P. O. BOX 66

C/O MR. & MRS. JERRY J. NIELSEN

Alabama Archaeological Society



## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types</i> . . . . .	\$7.35 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part II, Uniface Blade and Flake Tools</i> . . . . .	2.25 pp
<i>Lively, Long, Josselyn – Pebble Tool Papers</i> . . . . .	3.00 pp

CHECKS FOR ABOVE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

<i>First 10 Years of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> . . . . .	\$5.00 pp
Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> (each) . . . . .	3.00 pp
Special Publication 1 – <i>Fort Mitchell</i> . . . . .	2.00 pp

CHECKS FOR *JOURNALS* AND *FORT MITCHELL* TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:  
ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAIL CHECKS TO: MR. DAVID L. DE JARNETTE  
BOX 66  
MOUNDVILLE, ALA. 35474