

# Alabama Archaeological Society

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*File in book*

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## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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TUSCALOOSA CHAPTER

### 1966 SUMMER ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP

So that you can begin to make plans at once, our usual summer gathering is announced for the weekend of July 23rd and 24th. Our President, Dr. E. M. Lindsey, urges everyone to come, view and take part in the excellent job being done on our summer dig, and to support the work in a financial way as well as providing volunteer labor.

Demonstration of excavation techniques will be conducted both days at the dig site, throughout the working day of the student crew, from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, with  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour for lunch at 12:00 noon. So come early and be prepared from a clothing standpoint to actively participate in the work. If you don't bring your lunch, snacks of various kinds can be obtained at Crump's Store, where picnic tables are available in a lovely pine grove. It is not possible to state now that the Crump's Store site will be completed before the meeting date, but if so, information can be obtained at the store as to how to get to the site then being excavated. The map included in this Newsletter shows how to reach the area from all directions. Bring it with you.

Even if you do not find it possible to participate in the digging, be sure to come to the Summer Annual Meeting, which will commence with dinner at 6:30 PM on Saturday, July 23rd in the restaurant at the Travel Inn Motel, located about a mile EAST of GUIN on the NORTH side of US Highway 78. If you plan to spend both days at the meeting, the Travel Inn Motel offers new, modern and most comfortable facilities, and while not absolutely necessary, personally made reservations for desired accommodations will assure you of a satisfactory place to stay. Write Travel Inn Motel, Guin, Ala.

The meeting proper will follow dinner, and no formal program has been arranged. There will, however, be reports on various activities of the State Society, and Dave DeJarnette will give us a comprehensive discussion of results obtained to date from excavations completed as well as those planned for the remainder of the season. There will also be a State Society Board of Directors' Meeting, with reports by the President, Secretary-Treasurer, Journal Editor, Newsletter Editor, Research Association, discussion as to the site of the December Annual Meeting and other matters. All of this should provide an interesting session for all in attendance.

IT IS VERY NECESSARY that we let the Restaurant know how many folks will be present for the dinner, so as to make required arrangements in advance. SO AS SOON AS YOU KNOW you will be coming, please write Mr. D. L. DeJarnette, c/o Crump's Store, Route 4, Sulligent, Ala., and inform him how many will be in your party. Of course, you can always eat ham & eggs, but you won't enjoy them while the others are partaking of the fine dinner the Restaurant will have for those who let us know. PLEASE DON'T OVERLOOK THIS!

Even if you will not otherwise be able to offer yourselves as volunteer labor to make possible a greater volume of excavation on the summer dig (there is no digging activity on any Monday), try your hardest to get to the meeting. You will greatly enjoy

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seeing what your contributions are accomplishing in the pursuit of Early Man in Alabama, and get to see your old friends, make new acquaintances and otherwise participate in activities of the most progressive archaeological Society in the U.S. COME ALL!!!

### PROGRESS REPORT - 1966 SUMMER DIG

On June 8 excavations began at Lr 20, the Crump Site, with full student crew. The site was staked out in 2 intersecting trenches, each 60 feet long, and excavations were begun using arbitrary 4 inch levels in the south end of the north-south trench. Material from the excavation is being thoroughly sifted by mechanical screen.

The site is producing abundant material. It is stratified, and although somewhat shallow, it has more depth than was anticipated from the test conducted last winter. The pottery, primarily Alexander, is concentrated in the upper levels.

A major purpose of the excavation is to shed some light on the chronological placement of the Lively Complex relative to the known chronology of Alabama. Lamar County is seemingly ideal for the investigation because here the Lively Complex occurs on yellow flint pebbles, whereas biface technologies from Dalton to Madison occur on red jasper. Lr 20 is a typical multicomponent site lying peripheral to the flood plain of the Butahatchee River. The site has produced points ranging in age from the transitional Paleo Indian through Mississippian. The following chart represents a rough count on the worked flint taken from the initial trench, pointing up the depth distribution of the 2 major types of flint:

<u>4" Levels -</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Red Jasper	109	47	31	32	11	9
Yellow Flint	19	10	19	22	13	9
% Yellow Flint to Total	15	18	38	40	54	50

The above trend is even more pronounced when the unworked chips are considered.

### LUCKY SEVENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE, 1966

Seven years ago the Alabama Archaeological Society had 4 Chapters - instead of the present 12. If we were stirring a lot of interest, or were even heard of, in Kenya, France, Hungary, Alaska, Ottawa, Alberta, Universities of Washington, Harvard, Yale, Michigan, etc., etc., Denver Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, etc., etc., as we are now, we hadn't heard about it. In fact, we ourselves had not heard that we were doing much! Today, with our first Lively Complex pebble tool excavation looking as if it might put us OUT IN FRONT of American archaeology, both professional and amateur, the old grey mare shore ain't what she used to be - we suspect hormones, vitamins and pep pills. But actually we attribute this rebirth largely to the intervention of the McCary and Spencer tribes, and like to report their continuing splendid support together:

Mr. & Mrs. J. Henry McCary Jr., and Mr. & Mrs. William M. Spencer. Mr. McCary is President of our Archaeological Research Association of Alabama Inc., and Mr. Spencer is Treasurer and Legal Advisor of this, our fund-raising arm. As far as we can learn, no other amateur Society has even tried an annual fund drive to raise funds by subscription to hire professional help to make scientific summer excavations possible. Looking back over our trials and tribulations, and our 7 years of success, we agree that it could not be done - without the McCary's and Spencers. In the first place, they just "took the bull by the horns", set up the machinery, gave it the stability of their prominent names. Then, when the bull was sagging a bit, they held him up. They did not pretend to know anything about archaeology, but they taught us that this "walled in" discipline should tap the brains and enthusiasms, the interest and support, of the entire community. Archaeology, McCaryology, Spencerology - as it were. We like to



express our annual recognition of, and gratitude for, this - and the hope that other Societies can discover such teamwork. And wives will please note the concurrent interest in and support of these strange "archaeological notions" by Mrs. McCary and Mrs. Spencer - a "family interest" gains greatly in potency.

LIBERTY NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (which again has had to enlarge its facilities,) Jack D. McSpadden, Executive Vice President, liberally donating year after year, is another happy result of our invasion of the great American business community. Furthermore, Mr. & Mrs. McSpadden are now joint life members, helping us carry the story of archaeology to intelligent and influential levels. We are developing a wonderful "archaeological family", and in addition to thanking LIBERTY NATIONAL we want to add "ditto" to the many fine things we hear about this progressive Insurance Company.

Mr. & Mrs. C. van den Berg send a chuckle along with their fine annual check this year. It seems that Milt Harris had received a complaint from Mr. van den Berg that we did not send out notices that "donations are due". So along with the check came Milt's notice: "The Earl Milton Harrises have the honor of informing the Cornelius van den Bergs junior that the seventh annual dig fund of the Alabama Archaeological Society is now open for contributions - so kick in dammit (please)". But then Mrs. van den Berg and Mrs. Harris are sisters - all in fun and in the family. It is nice that we don't send out demands, or even individual requests - but wasn't it nice of Mr. van den Berg to ask for one? Gracias!

A BIG ALABAMA COMPANY: "We are again happy this year to enclose our check in the amount of \$100 as an anonymous contribution...our best wishes go with you and your organization". How about that! And this is not the first time! We regret that they do not care for public recognition and thanks, but every year we try to express our thanks by letter, and tell a bit about what they are supporting. This year we sent a complimentary copy of our Lively Complex publication, and explained our "big try" and "best investment in archaeology"!

Mr. & Mrs. David L. DeJarnette, Mr. & Mrs. Brittain Thompson, Dr. & Mrs. Edward M. Lindsey, Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Gay - speaking of our wonderful archaeological family, we are moved to list these together as indivisible essentials. The DeJarnettes have breathed the exactitude and authenticity of science into our work. The Thompsons have been inspired "work horses" in many indispensable ways for many years, always ready, and always fun. The Lindseys have been so able and energetic in developing the Noccalula Chapter, and Dr. Mike rose to and accepted the considerable honor and labor of State President. The Gays provide us with an example of members too isolated to attend meetings, but who sustain their own enthusiasm and do a good, conscientious job on their own. Mix such ingredients, stir gently - and, folks, you have a real ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Lamar Pearson and John A. Stellmack, new donors, were perhaps enthused by our Lively Complex pebble tool prospects - reminding us that we shall thrive according to the importance of our work, as we deserve. And we are proud that Lamar Pearson, as a University of Alabama student, got some of his early field experience digging with us. He is now with Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Ga. And we are proud that John Stellmack reaches a friendly and helping hand all the way from the Chemical Engineering Building, University Park, Pa. We hope our work this year will make them, and scads of other hoped-for new donors, proud to be a part of what we are trying to make the humdingingest search for Early Man (who ever more needs it) in America.

Alice M. (Mrs. John O.) Burns donates for her NINTH successive month. We never could read fortunes from tea leaves, the "scapula divination" of archaeology, even the sure-fire method of chicken entrails by which Roman Emperors guided a great empire. But when one gets such pregnant signs as this he hardly has to be gifted at divination to see an omen for a productive summer.

A. J. Powers, our long-time Sylacauga member-reporter, discovered us in 1961 - and has never missed a donor-year! He is also one of those "without benefit of a Chapter" to keep up his interest! Also, Al reports this year that Mary Alice King, our first New Mexico donor (March Newsletter), is his cousin!

Arthur Dunning (the Dunnings joined the Dedicated Donors to our winter program, May Newsletter), Vice President of our oldest Chapter (1929), the Birmingham Anthropological Society, is generously donating in the name of his Chapter the THIRD SET of Alabama Minerals - FIFTY BOXES to be sold to support our summer excavations. This set, like the former 2, contains 25 specimens. All are named, located by county and industrial uses given. Cassiterite, a tin ore from Coosa Co.; Colophane, a potash source from Morgan Co.; Rhodenite, a manganese ore from Clay Co. - and so on. Even gold ore from Tallapoosa Co.! Those who have the former 2 sets will especially want this set, but we have to operate on a "first come, first served" basis. Please send Chapter orders together when possible to facilitate mailing. Address Dan Josselyn, 408 Broadway, Birmingham, Ala. 35209. These nicely boxed and captioned sets sell for only \$1.25 each, plus 25¢ to cover average mailing costs. This is a fine and educational "know your Alabama geology" donation Arthur is making, and will net our dig a fine profit - a double donation indeed.

Jean (Mrs. Tom) Fowler has a farm, with artifacts, and at least closely related relatives of Lively Complex PEBBLE TOOLS! In chalcedony - you will see Dr. Long's fine photographs and read about them. We expect this sort of "twisted Jean's arm" this year - she really had to donate to learn about her own "pebble tool farm". She is much annoyed and distressed, we may add, that some north Alabama residents are poaching on her farm without permission - and digging! The way we feel about that - well, we'll lend Jean our shotgun, loaded.

Mrs. Lee J. Clayton Jr. discovered us way back in '62. She began "donating to archaeology" quite a few years before that - for she gave us our own Margaret Clayton. We were "all grins" of pleasure when her donation arrived today and remembered how Milt & Bea Harris, hunting an excavation down Eufaula way, "discovered" Mrs. Clayton, and how nice she was to them. Come to think of it, archaeology introduced us to our best friends, and pretty well all over the U.S. - we thank them and archaeology too. And thanks in a good many ways, Mrs. Clayton - Margaret is doing a fine job for us, and should make quite a name for herself as the first professional to work on the Lively Complex.

THE TUSCALOOSA CHAPTER is the FIRST to send in a Chapter donation this year! And this was sent in by John Cottier, a member they can also brag about. They are the closest Chapter to our digs this year, and we hope they can participate. We wish we had a "circulating ambassador" to visit every Chapter at least once a year - we are pretty far apart geographically, and perhaps in some other ways at times. As a STATE SOCIETY we are more than 12 times as effective as we are Chapter by Chapter!

#### PEBBLE TOOL NEWS

Dr. Irving Rouse, Yale, an authority on the archaeology of the West Indies, writes that he is "much impressed" by our Lively Complex pebble tool publication. His "Prehistory of the West Indies" in NEW ROADS TO YESTERDAY (Basic Books, 1966) "summarizes the evidence for a pebble tool complex in Venezuela preceding the projectile point horizon in that area". Sigfus Olafson, who has generously made himself our "eastern representative", made this important contact with Dr. Rouse. Dr. Stuart Struever, Northwestern University, brought our publication to the attention of Dr. Frederick Hadleigh West, Alaska Methodist University, Anchorage. Dr. West writes that he has "some material from central Alaska that is rather ancient looking".

Edward A. Chappell, ordering from Virginia, sends the welcome bonus: "I enjoy your newsletter every month" - which we shall reciprocate with "a man of excellent taste!"



David M. Kerns, St. Paul, Minn., following his own purchase, ordered another for the Hollifield Memorial Library, Auburn - WAR EAGLE! Gene Van Buren, ordering from Garden Grove, Calif., writes: "If you are keeping score, I found a pure pebble tool site in N.W. Nevada, N.E. California, near Abilene, Texas, in east central Arizona, and in Limestone County, Ala." - which is what we have come to expect. Our progressive Huntsville Public Library ordered the Lively Complex publication on the day we received a check for same from the New York State Library at Albany. Dr. John L. Cotter, N.E. Regional Director, National Park Service.....Dr. James Bingham Jr., Lexington, N.C.....Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J.....we are impressed, and gratified, by the quality of the purchasers of the Lively Complex papers and the generous remarks and co-operation. Edgar M. Collins, N.W. Arkansas Archaeological Society, ordered a copy "to be given to our Library in memoriam of one of our deceased members." We applaud, and urge a copy for every Society Library so you won't get caught "with your archaeological pants down".

Bob and Marjorie Gay, of Standing Rock, Ala., performed a valuable service by bringing in some lithic tools on such abominable quartz with a granular fracture that if we were not saturated in the stuff we would not have recognized them or their Lively Complex traits! It is not that we have not FOUND these before - we haven't RECOGNIZED them. Later the same afternoon Francis and Margaret Smith arrived from Atlanta with a box of good black "flint" from what seems to have been a source of aboriginal supply over a long period. We shall paint with aluminum the suspicious TOOL EDGES WORKED ON HUNKS and return to help working out Lively Complex possibilities in Georgia. (We also had the pleasure of meeting Tammy, the Scotty, whom we once accused of digging on sites, and found her a model of good behavior.) Alice Burns brought in a load of large workshop waste to assist those who don't know how to differentiate that from pebble tools, and are suspicious that no one else does! This sort of cooperation is splendid - only "happy hosts of hunting hamateurs" can possibly cover the emerging pebble tool front.

Two major questions concerning the Lively Complex pebble tools are: are they associated with our projectile point cultures; or are they older? The recovery of pebble tools from the lowest level at the Crump Site currently being excavated at our summer dig, without projectile points, and of point types over 9,000 years old from levels above, is the first (and exciting!) indication we have (other than technological) that this strange pebble tool complex may not be associated with our projectile point cultures, and may be older. If our work this summer can pin these down as solid facts, it will represent an enormous forward stride for American Archaeology, and insure Alabama a place in the archaeological "hall of fame".

### ??? WHY ARCHAEOLOGY ???

Our June issue applauded Dr. Bob McGimsey, whose work in Arkansas we much admire, for his valiant efforts toward a State-Supported Archaeological Program. But his answer to "why archaeology", in which a chief argument seemed to be "tourist attraction", did not satisfy us at all. (Though we do realize that in entering the political arena with a state legislature one may be obliged to descend to very "common parlance".) To answer "why archaeology" - for our more enlightened audience, we offer the following:

Archaeology is history, so take the battle of Waterloo. It is interesting reading for the casual "literary tourist" - but it is as Byron's "grave of France" that it gains anthropological value. Such morals, infinitively cumulative, to be drawn from man's historic mistakes, which we repeat over and over, disgracefully never learning the sad lessons of this "laboratory of human behavior" - these are the priceless values of history, not the battlefield of Waterloo as a "tourist attraction". Fiddlededee!

The longer branch of history called archaeology furnishes far more such morals, the sad mirror of the past in which we may see ourselves. The vast Monk's Mound in the U.S.....the Pyramid of the Sun in Mexico.....the great Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt, all of about the same impressively gigantic proportions.....and the many HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of other tumuli man has built all over the world - instead of just "tourist at-



tractions" they should be silly monuments to the wasted folly of man's superstitions.

The remnants of 3 protective fortress walls entirely across Britain.....Herod's great stone fortress of Masada high on a rocky crag above the Dead Sea shore and surrounded by a wall 18 feet high by 13 feet thick and 4,000 feet long.....the Great Wall of China 20 to 30 feet high and wide enough on top for automobiles to pass and 1,400 MILES long - are these, and literally millions of other defensive units to protect man against himself, to be mere "tourist attractions"? They seem to have infinitely more value as reminders of how man has wasted his time, his energy, his brains, his substance and himself at profitless wars.

And it seems high time that even our politicians were told all this instead of about "tourist attractions". Superstitions in our U.S. still cost us at least TEN BILLION DOLLARS a year. Our wars and rumors of wars average direct costs of some FIFTY BILLION DOLLARS a year - with a few more billions so "undeveloped" nations might have their wars too. Indirect costs in brains and science we shall never know. Dr. Paul T. Allaman, research engineer, U.S. Bureau of Mines, warns that "approximately one-half of the scientists and one-third of the engineers", and most of the annual \$18 billion taxpayer research, are being devoured by "defense" and related programs - the Great, the foolish, the disastrous Wall of China all over again! We did not learn its archaeological lesson.

If we ever do learn the lessons of history, and to profit by them, think what a wondrous world we can build! Personally, that is our own main answer to "why archaeology" - to make man ponder his past and himself more deeply - we cannot settle for "tourist attractions"! And on several perilous fronts it appears likely that if we do not soon take difficult MAN seriously enough to study him, in every way that we can devise, we shall deprive the earth of a very interesting creature with fearful potential.

#### MORE ARCHAEOLOGICAL THOUGHTS

An Archaeological Commission of 25 members representing universities, Museums and amateurs has been created in Belgium, we note in the current COWA Survey, Western Europe, Part I. Among the aims is a "better collaboration between professional and amateur archaeologists". We wonder if America, too, is not ripe for some larger archaeological planning.

Among the things we should like to see most would be adequate regional storage facilities for the vast amounts of artifacts collected by amateurs. So often a site is collected by more than one person. No matter how properly these collections are made, the chances of ever getting them all together for study are remote - like a book torn asunder with many owners of a few pages each.

Even if a site is collected by one person, studied and reported, he may consider the transaction closed and get careless about giving artifacts away "to fill out some friend's collection". This is a great mistake. In Europe, one notes that as new information comes in, the old studies are continually being restudied, reevaluated, reinterpreted. The recent work of Vignard and Jube in France is expected to "bring sweeping changes in our concept of the structure of the Mesolithic." The recent discovery of Villafranchian (pre-Pleistocene) deposits in France "which should be contemporary with those found at Olduvai", suggests that very early "pebble tool man" had already spread widely, which upsets a lot of applecarts. Here in Alabama we have already had to reevaluate studies made only a few years ago - where artifacts were fortunately stored safely and together at Moundville.

American archaeology is in its childhood if not infancy. We shall want to refer again and again to the artifacts, etc., which tell the story - and revise again and again. If each Chapter had a common storage facility, where ALL collections from EVERY site could be kept together, permanently, and orderly, it would be a boon to the future of American archaeology. At present, no matter how "scientifically" we do it, we are dissecting and scattering the corpse of the past into a thousand little pieces we can never put back together for reevaluation. And reevaluation, you can be sure, will be a lot more intelligent and important than original evaluation. Until we do get ade-

quate storage facilities, DO THE BEST YOU CAN to KEEP THE CORPSE TOGETHER! Our own practice for many years has been to COLLECT A FRIEND'S SITE FOR HIM - not for ourself. If many collect one site, duplicate records, distributed to all interested parties, should be kept of WHO HAS WHAT, and WHERE - and to whom willed and all other complications. (We do hear that our enterprising new Choctawhatchee Chapter has warehouse facilities for COMMON storage of the COMMON or group collection - our congratulations on this archaeology "of and for the future".)

#### CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter will hold no more meetings until September. A Field Meeting will be held in conjunction with the State Society Annual Summer Meeting. Dan Josselyn was elected to Honorary Life Membership in the Chapter at the last meeting. An educational archaeology exhibit has been placed in the Main Hall of the University of Alabama Extension Center by the Chapter. Madge Hahn, Arthur Dunning and Frank Parsons were instrumental in making preparations for the exhibit.

Marshall County Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Sand Mountain Hotel, Albertville. At the June meeting, Jane Lumkin, a student at Birmingham-Southern College recounted the places her group will visit in the Near East and what they will be doing on a summer dig in Israel. She & Mrs. W. D. Thomason were elected as honorary members of the Chapter, and their State Society dues were paid by the Chapter.

Montgomery Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. The June meeting was addressed by Senor J. Miguel Collado, Tourist Attache of the Guatemalan Embassy, who discussed the culture, history and background of Guatemala including a film of the country and 13 handwoven native costumes. The Chapter is continuing exploration of Fort Toulouse with survey and test exploration in the area.

Noccalula Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. At the June meeting, Mrs. E. M. Lindsey spoke on "Indian Sites from Rome, Georgia, into Alabama".

(Editor's Note: We know several chapters do not schedule meetings during the summer, but the Secretaries of others must have been on vacations. No other reports received.)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR JUNE: (A warm welcome to each of you!)

Jimmie E. Brackner, Route 1 Box 190, Brookwood, Ala. 35444 (Family)

Dan P. Buchanan, 122 Ward Ave., Huntsville, Ala. (need Zip Code)

Danny Miles Dobbs, 308 McGuire St., Fayette, Ala. 35555

Mrs. Clarice Mitchell, Route 3, Phil Campbell, Ala. 35581

Jerry F. Tanner, Route 1 Box 97, Toney, Ala. 35773 (Family)

University of Kentucky Libraries, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 40507

CHANGES OF ADDRESS: (Our folks surely seem to get around in lots of ways!)

Randall M. Brown, P O Box 202, Guild, Tenn. 37340

W. L. Crump, 3918 Panorama Drive S.E., Huntsville, Ala. 35801

Jimmy F. Edwards, 405 E. Lakeside Drive, Florence, Ala. 35630

Blair Jones, P O Box 485, Pell City, Ala. 35125

James Barry Maynard, 407 Meeting St., Georgetown, S.C. 29440

Lt.Col. Richard A. Plumley, c/o Douglas R. Lowe, Burns, Oregon 97720

Justin M. Salyards, 114 Hursey St., Pass Christian, Miss. (need Zip Code)

Ronnie L. Thomas, 405 Connelly St., Dothan, Ala. 36301

Gloria Jean Wentowski, 3315 Audubon Road, Montgomery, Ala. 36106

Paul Whaley II, 406 Dallas Ave., Selma, Ala. 36701

BAD ADDRESSES:

Gregg Gordon, formerly Route 1, Henagar, Ala.



Frank Kent Reilly III, P O Box 96, Huntingdon College, Montgomery, Ala. (formerly)  
Robert G. Rives, General Delivery, University, Ala. (formerly)  
Sidney Stein, 405 Holmes Ave. S.E., Huntsville, Ala. (formerly)

YOU CAN HELP KEEP EXPENSES DOWN IF YOU:

- 1 Carefully check the Newsletter mailing label and advise us promptly of any error.
- 2 Advise us IN ADVANCE of a change of address. Our mailing permit requires return of Newsletters incompletely or incorrectly addressed. Remailing costs us 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢!
- 3 Notify us your Zip Code Number if missing or incorrect on your mailing label.
- 4 Can give us addresses of members listed monthly under "Bad Addresses". Thanks!

REGRETS: Last month we were sorry to report that Horace J. Holland's father fell and broke his hip. This month we deeply regret the necessity of reporting his death. When a fine old oak of 91 years falls, we feel that the world has lost a valuable contact with its sturdy horse-and-buggy pioneering past which we button-pushers might well remember. Yet how good to live so long, through so much change, and to have reared such an unusual and gratifying son. We bow to a successful life.

Sigfus Olafson's Mother, in her 94th year, left the world richer in strong and good things and fine memories. We have never published but one Special Issue Newsletter - there is a bit of work attached to getting out this publication. That was inspired by Mrs. Olafson in mid-March of 1961, though we never met her and she was not a public figure. A homesteader and pioneer in Minnesota, from Iceland, her strong, fine life was such that although lived quite privately it could filter thus afar and inspire. That was the year, 1961, of our first full fund drive and summer excavation, and this radically new departure was having some difficulty - but by July we had oversubscribed by \$1,844.78. The way "just plain people" live their lives is thus important, and we are grateful that such people have lived, and regret their passing.

OVERSEAS MAIL, golly, heavy this month. First we get a beautiful picture postcard, complete with biblical desert, camels and ass, from Thom Marlow, with a Jordan stamp, 50 fils, air mail. He and Tina Johnson (both of our Choctawhatchee Chapter) are finding that "The world has so many treasures to behold" as they view the magnificent works of man's past. And they are finding it "such a rewarding feeling to know archaeology is the reason" why we can know how valiant little man, with only the crudest of instruments, struggled up from caves to castles. But, bless our distant travelers, they "hope the pebble tool drive is going well - as that is our love. Keep promoting for a better understanding of ALABAMA'S ancient cultures". Indeed, we do seem to have a neglected, unguessed, mysterious Early Man of our own destined to make history. Then comes a most ornate picture postcard of a lovely Pagoda, from Dr. Frank Soday, 4 #\*0, air mail, from Japan. The Sodays are "Marco Poloing" around: Alaska, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Manila, Bangkok, Calcutta, New Delhi, Moscow, Geneva, London - wow! Frank is, of course, interested in collecting some Korean bronze spoons and chopsticks of the Koroyos Dynasty. (Correction: the "pagoda" is "the entrance of the well-known Tohshogu Shrine" built in 1636 when our "Pilgrim Fathers" were building mud-and-wattle huts - an interesting contrast for the "Western World" to think upon.)

SPEAKING OF PICTURE POSTCARDS!!! In our March issue we announced that our learned Bea Harris had collaborated with Dr. Wm. H. Cole on a "scientific introduction for shell hobbyists to make their hobby mean vastly more to them" (wish she'd write a book along those lines for archaeology hobbyists!). The color photos were not ready at that time, but are coming off the press. We received a picture postcard, with illustrations taken from the book, including the frilly red fan of a Lyropecten nodosus Linne, the leopard-spotted striking Scaphella junonia Shaw, and other "molluscs with a college education". But as O. Henry put it: "The correct names as well as the Latin" are given, as "False Drill" and "Cut-ribbed Ark".

COMPLIMENTS: Dr. Carl H. Chapman, University of Missouri and Secretary of the progressive Missouri Archaeological Society, wants to exchange publications with us. Dr. John



B. Nuckolls writes: "I surely wish we had an archaeological society in this state that would get things done like you folks in Alabama". Charles H. Faulkner, University of Tennessee, writes: "I have been keeping up with Alabama happenings through STONES AND BONES and always marvel at the wealth of information you pack into a newsletter". The catch is that we have to try to live up to these generous estimates! Charlie and Terry Faulkner, by the way, are "having a delightful time spoiling" Kelly Ann Faulkner, born March 19, and have bought a house and "been very busy painting and doing all the necessary things to make it our very own home". Congratulations, and to Kelly Ann for choosing such nice parents.

Ronald J. Willis, Arlington, Va., is the latest to join those who are increasingly sending us copies of archaeological articles of interest. Paul J. Willis, Festus, Mo., offers to send for inspection an apparent artifact unfamiliar to him. We suspect some family connection - and a most cooperative family.

Randy Gray, our geologist member, is bringing something to Alabama archaeology which it has lacked, and needed. Geology is increasingly necessary as an adjunct to archaeology as we carry man further back in time - we often must "date a terrace" in order to date the man who lived on it, and so on.

Mr. C. van den Berg loaned us (via Milt Harris) the June issue of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, with the same old story, now some 15 years old, purporting to tell about Early Man in America, and when and how he got here. The old record jitters and squeaks in almost every revolution with "negative evidence", flat statements without a shred of support, hypotheses based on hypotheses. And increasingly the intervals between the clicks of major cracks in the old record become shorter and shorter. The old hypothetical "ice-free corridor" is opened again. "The greatest concentration of fluted points is centered on Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee" - he hasn't discovered Alabama! This goes on and on, but we skip to the worst of the "negative evidence". Speaking of the fluted point, "no precursors are known in the New World or elsewhere". So he imports them from "Elsewhere"!

We devoutly hope, for the sake of our tintinabulating tympanum, that our pebble tool excavations this summer will take this rheumatic old record off of the market, and give imaginative archaeology a new theme song. High praise, indeed, to you diggers and donors if you do it!

"WOW" OF THE MONTH: We were reading in SPAAC SPEAKS, Newsletter of the Allegheny Chapter #1 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, a summary of Dr. James L. Swauger's Annual Dinner talk on the third-season excavation of the biblical city of Ashdod. The "tell" or mound of midden is "about 60 football fields in extent and about 100 feet deep"!!! NINETEEN cultural layers were found. "The dig has involved large crews (about 100 laborers and supervisors) over a three-year period. The sample represents less than 1 percent of the site." In short, at this rate it will take over 300 years to dig Ashdod! "Everybody a part-time archaeologist" in a good amateur society looks to be the only answer for archaeology.

John Big Tree, Seneca Indian Chief who posed for the Indian-head nickel, 1913, most attractive we ever had (and how about a reissue?), is now 103 years old. May this withered old branch of the Tshoti-nondawaga ("people of the hill", leading tribe of the great Iriquois Confederacy) live another century!

PERSONALS: I probably have some of YOUR artifacts - I've lost count! Lively, Hooper, Roberts, Mahan, Holland, Fowler, Emanuel, Johnson, Amenda (and other Choctawhatchee Chapter members), Humbard, Burns, Dr. A. R. Kelly via Margaret Clayton, University of Tennessee via Charlie Faulkner, Troup, Mourning (Mississippi), (Dr. Robbins, Massachusetts returned) - whom are we forgetting - or whoms! Now, why aincha gottum back yet? Well, (or change that "w" to another letter) there's over a ton. They need to be correlated - it is difficult to finish one study until all are finished! Some of these collections require several studies. Dr. A. G. Long was down from Gunter'sville several

times to make his unparalleled photos for publication - hundreds and hundreds of artifacts which will support 20-odd papers! Our "regular work" in archaeology requires all of our time! Our letters, for example, promoting and communicating and making friends for archaeology - they run to half a million words a year, some 6 average books. We shore would admire to get this "extra" work of studying pebble tools off of our hands - anybody want the job? We shore are a-hankerin' to get this mess of rocks out of our house - so we can get in it. We are more anxious to get rid of your rocks than you are to get them back, and that is the long and short of it. They are well cared for - in fact positively pampered. We can deliver at any time on demand, but do want to get them in print and picture (man, what pictures, and we have to make some drawings too) for the edification of the archaeological world. Thanks, apologies, and back to those te'bble pebbles!

Dan'l.

REDEPOSITED SITES: The May Newsletter of the Arkansas Society says Linda and Bill Wheeler are finding artifacts in gravel spread in a new church parking area in Fayetteville. In the Sylacauga waterworks dam there is a "dam good" site, some 30 acres of it some 10 feet deep and lousy with artifacts and hundreds of burials - the stratigraphy now a bit inverted. The Atlanta Highway fill, somewhere east of Irondale, contains a rich double-component site - watching that gave us the bulldozer blues, as did the Sylacauga site! Sites are redeposited almost everywhere - A. B. Humbard is doing a report on "one for the book". But you will never beat that one Alice De Lamar wrote us about some years ago - excavating a projectile point in the window box of her Park Ave. apt.! "Bread upon the waters", you might call that, for this fine friend of archaeology.

BASIC BOOKS INC., 404 Park Ave. S., New York, N.Y. 10016. Dear Sirs: We greatly appreciate your offer of a "professional discount" of 20% reducing NEW ROADS TO YESTERDAY from \$12.50 to \$10 - but we already have it, an excellent book! We hope you will extend this courtesy to our members who may order the book, identifying themselves as members of the Alabama Archaeological Society. Amateurs who buy such excellent technical (but highly readable) books are doing good archaeology - for free - and deserve some consideration, and all the education they can get. You have a good potential market in the perhaps 50,000 amateurs in the U.S. Edward C. Boss, Editor, P.I.A. Newsletter, 345 E. McMurray Road, McMurray, Pa. 15317, with enormous labor prepared an inclusive BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERIODICALS of the U.S., adjacent Canada & Mexico. Possibly he could spare you a copy if you would care to circularize this potential market - and we hope stimulate archaeological education with the lure of a "professional discount", a compliment we rather appreciate. (We'll send a copy of this issue to President Arthur J. Rosenthal himself - the above is a good book on both Old World and, for a change, New World archaeology, and congratulations to University of Georgia Dr. A. R. Kelly on the chapter he co-authored on "Patination of Cultural Flints".)

DEFINITION OF ARCHAEOLOGY: "an academic discipline or profession not noted for mutual esteem or observance of the rules of the Marquis of Queensbury" (D. T. Easby Jr., AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, Oct. 1965, p. 258). Heaven protect us from "polite unanimity of opinion", but we do think we might keep opinions "above the belt" and impersonal.

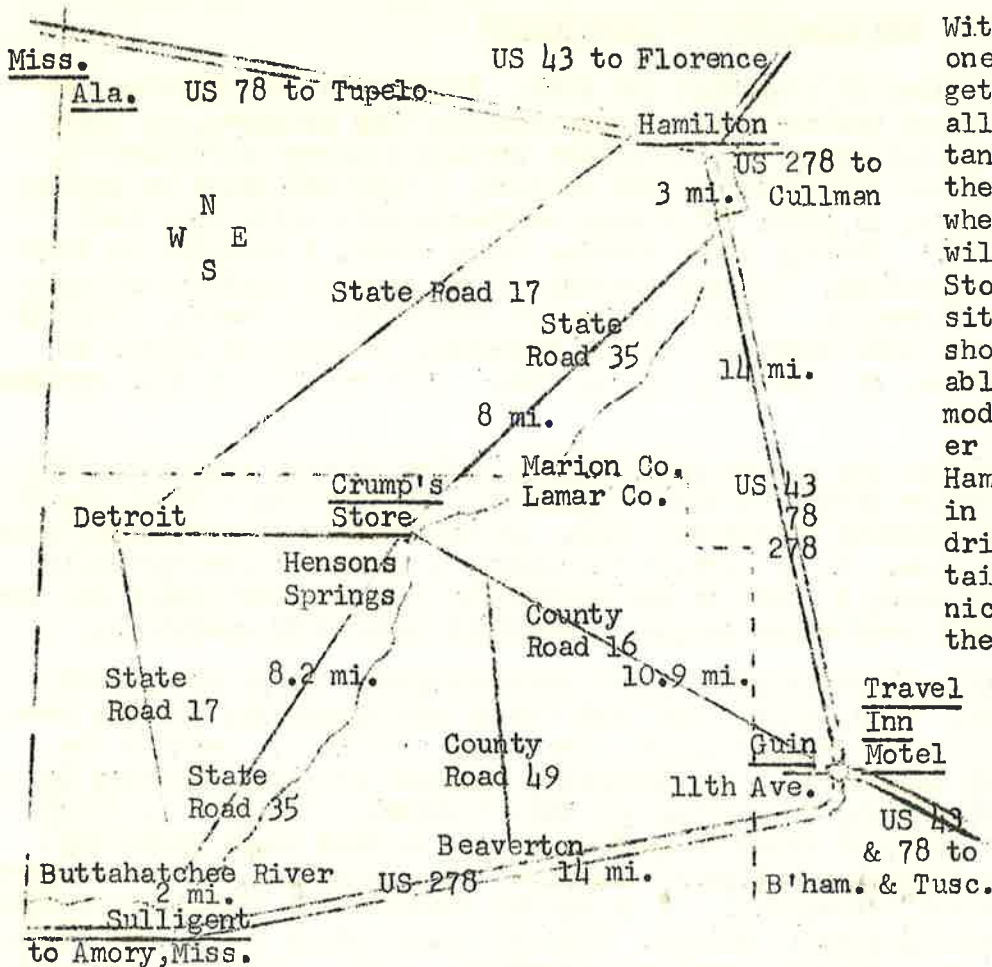
WE'LL VOUCH FOR THIS ONE: "Early man is known to have lived and hunted elephant at the same time". K. O. Emery in OCEANUS, Jan. 1966. (At least all evidence is that artifacts were never taken to the Happy Hunting Ground.)

MAYBE THAT'S WHAT'S WRONG: According to a review of a biography of Ignatius Donnelly, in the AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, it was he chiefly who "popularized and promoted most of the reforms that twentieth-century progressives enacted into law". He also was the man who got the fantastic nightmare of "Atlantis" out of the Atlantic Ocean.

SEE YOU AT THE SUMMER ANNUAL MEETING



# SUMMER DIG INFORMATION



With this map, we hope no one will have any difficulty getting to the dig sites, all of which are a short distance from Crump's Store. If the Crump Site is completed when you come, information will be available at the Store as to how to get to the site being worked. Mileages shown on the map are reasonably approximate. No accommodations are available nearer than Guin, Sulligent or Hamilton. There is no cafe in the dig vicinity, but soft drinks and snacks can be obtained at Crump's Store. A nice restaurant is part of the Travel Inn Motel at Guin, which Motel is now Dig Headquarters, since the Student Crew has moved there from Sulligent. Lab Sessions will also be held at the Travel Inn Motel on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights of each week. None of the roads are as straight as pictured on the map.

## FURTHER DIG INFORMATION:

Starting Date:	June 6th	Completion Date:	August 19th
Working Days:	Every day EXCEPT Monday	Working Hours:	8:00 AM to 4:30 PM
Director:	David L. DeJarnette	Lunch Period:	12:00 to 12:30 PM
Field Asst.	Margaret V. Clayton		

Student Crew during the First Term, June 6th through July 12th:

Sandy Graham, Birmingham, Ala.	Carole Hill, Leighton, Ala.
Tom Jandebaur, Huntsville, Ala.	Pamela Paul, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Sharon Schembs, Tuscaloosa, Ala.	Henry Spivey, Foley, Ala.
Yancey Swearengen, Shorter, Ala.	John Walthall, Birmingham, Ala.
Shelby White, Huntsville, Ala.	

Student Crew during the Second Term, July 14th through August 19th:

Joy Dell Adams, Maplesville, Ala.	Steve Brewer, Fort Payne, Ala.
Duncan Getchell, Mobile, Ala.	Robert Gilbert, Columbus, Miss.
Regina Kinsaul, Tuscaloosa, Ala.	Tim Osborne, Prattville, Ala.
Harry Stopp, Tuscaloosa, Ala.	

Mrs. R. B. Andridge, Director, and her Girl Scouts of the Deep South Council, Mobile, Ala., are planning to arrive at the dig sites, on July 23rd, and will be camping for 2 weeks there on their Annual Project Archy, assisting on the digs.

We also understand that Tom Cornell is planning on bringing his Boy Scout Troop to the summer dig from Huntsville, Ala., date of arrival not yet fixed.

## EDUCATIONAL PAGE

### THE LANGUAGE OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Several years ago, a friend gave me a booklet and said: "Maybe you can get more out of this than I did. It's about archaeology." While reading this brochure, my first encounter with an archaeological monograph, an almost strange language befuddled me. Knowing that another friend was interested in the subject, I told him about my confusion. Shrugging his shoulders, he said: "Too many archaeologists write like that. They must think they have to." Shortly after hearing these words, I accepted an invitation to go to a nearby excavation. Perhaps because of interest in history and geology, I became fascinated. Thereupon I read a number of archaeological books, articles and reports. After acquiring some knowledge of the technical language or jargon of archaeology, I found an element of appeal in all of them. Most required a slow reading pace. Few were easy to read.

Some persons say privately that the not so intelligible styles of many archaeologists seem to constitute a collective effort to keep their branch of learning a Royal Secret that only those of exalted academic status may know. An examination of pertinent facts causes me to reject such a view. To my certain knowledge, a number of professionals have spent time, effort and money to talk to and correspond with amateur groups and individuals. Furthermore, they seem eager to give forthright answers to questions.

The frequently unintelligible language of American archaeologists is, in my opinion, due to one primary handicap. This is the fact that few of our elementary schools have emphasized written composition of greater length than a few sentences. Despite the howls of some public school educators to the contrary, the lack of early practice in writing reveals itself most plainly in stilted and dull technical writing. In illustration of this point, all types of graduate engineers tell me that books which Englishmen have written about their respective specialties are usually much easier to read than similar works of American authorship. It is not my intention to indict all American technical, or even archaeological, writing. Some is brief, clear and highly readable. Too much, however, is plagued by needless scientific jargon, ponderous phrasing, overloaded sentences and unduly long paragraphs and chapters.

The lack of verbal expressiveness on the part of the early economists was apparently what prompted frugal Thomas Carlyle to call economics "that dismal science". Archaeology, however, cannot afford to be dismal, because it needs to enlarge its circle of devotees and friends. The use of understandable English would enable archaeologists to state their case more effectively to politicians, officers of public bureaus, amateurs, relic hunters, press and television reporters and the general public.

There is seldom a valid reason why any archaeological writing or lecture should be dull or incomprehensible to an intelligent high school student. The one exception is when the essence of the topic under discussion is unavoidably involved with an aspect of physics covered only in advanced instruction. Even then, diligence might effect a simplification. Many clear explanations of scientific matters are found in BUSINESS WEEK and THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. These publications avoid both juvenile simplicity and technical entanglement.

In closing, I shall quote from memory the late H. L. Mencken. Because many of his books are no longer on the local Public Library's shelves, I cannot quote exactly or cite volume and page. Anyhow, he once wrote that most good prose, unlike poetry, had been written by older men. The gist of this is that archaeological writers can hope to become highly readable if they strive valiantly to achieve a smooth advance of logically connected ideas with a minimum of strange words and weird phrases. In order to do this, it might be helpful to have a relative or friend read or hear the finished product. If this person does not seem to comprehend, return to the task of writing.

Fredd L. Ingate, Mauvilla Chapter