

Alabama Archaeological Society

NADB DOC # - 4,058,515

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Number 8

Volume 34

IN MEMORIAM

The Alabama Archaeological Society is saddened by the August 8, 1992 death of longtime member Baker Dean, Jr., of Opelika, Alabama. Mr. Dean is fondly remembered by the archaeological community as a gentle man of considerable humor and a tactful advocate of archaeological resource study and conservation. As president of the A.A.S., his skill as a diplomat and leader were appreciated as he proposed avenues for field work with specialists and the subsequent publication of acquired data.

Many individuals have benefitted from his assembly and evaluation of various tips, leads, and historical facts relating to Alabama's early history. He frequently made arrangements, coordinated activities, and led teams on educational and investigative visits to selected sites in southeast Alabama. For many people these outings became eagerly awaited adjunct activities to the A.A.S. annual meetings held in the general Opelika area.

Mr. Dean served in the U.S. Army in World War II, was a lifetime member of the First Presbyterian Church in Opelika, and was a real estate/insurance businessman there. He was a member of numerous civic, social and charitable organizations and served in a position of leadership in many of them throughout the years. He is survived by his wife Caroline, who shared his many archaeological interests, and their four sons.

B. Bart Henson
Huntsville

A.A.S. ANNUAL MEETING/CALL FOR PAPERS

The Alabama Archaeological Society Annual Meeting will be held in the auditorium of the State Capitol in Montgomery on Saturday, November 21. The theme of the meeting will be The Paleo Indian in Alabama. Submittals for papers to be presented at the Annual Meeting should be made by October 21, 1992 and addressed to:

Greg Rhinehart
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, AL 36130

The Paleo Point registration will continue at the Annual Meeting. Watch for more information on the meeting in the October STONES & BONES.

August 1992

THE L.D. 1 SITE (1Li92) CLOVIS ASSEMBLAGE

Through the cooperative effort of members of the Huntsville Chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society, the importance of the L.D. 1 Site (1Li92), Limestone County, Alabama, to local and regional prehistory is slowly being realized. The Clovis occupation at the L.D. 1 Site was first recognized by a local avocational, Bernice Ham. After viewing Bernice's collection from the site, I was convinced that it deserved further investigation.

Subsequently Bernice loaned her collection to me for analysis. I completed the description and analysis of her lithic collection in April 1992 and managed to photograph everything prior to her moving to Arizona with the collection. After analyzing her collection, I realized that the site was indeed rare, a virtual single component Clovis site. Although a few later artifacts have been found near the edge of the L.D. 1 Site, only Clovis points and related artifacts have been found within the one-acre area which represents the Clovis habitation area.

Two controlled surface collections have been made to date at the site. These were made possible through the interest and efforts of avocational and professional archaeologists from the north Alabama area - particularly from the Huntsville Chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society. The first collection took four days to complete, with a total of 6,561 square meters collected, using three-by-three-meter units. The second collection was completed in a half day. It used six-by-six-meter collection units and covered the same area as the first collection. After completing the controlled surface collections, the site area was mapped.

A total of 17 modified artifacts related to Clovis occupation were plotted on the grid during the controlled surface collections. These included a finished Clovis point, Clovis preforms, uniface end scrapers on blades, biface fragments, a blade core and a hammerstone. Approximately 110 flaked, ground, or abraded Clovis artifacts have been recovered and analyzed to date. These include blade cores, finished Clovis points, Clovis preforms, unifacial end scrapers on blades, unifacial cutting-scraping tools on blades, bifacial cutting tools, utilized blades, and blade-flakes, abraders and hammerstones. Additionally, numerous chert flakes or debitage and pieces of fire-cracked rock have been recovered. Virtually all of the flaked Clovis artifacts and debitage are manufactured from Fort Payne chert and are heavily patinated. Over 300 flakes have been analyzed in detail from the site to date, and it is estimated that the controlled surface collections will add an additional 400-500 flakes.

The material from the controlled surface collections will be analyzed this summer and the distributions of the different artifacts, debitage, and fire-cracked rock plotted. Depending upon the results of the density mapping, additional work involving subsurface test excavations may take place in the fall in

an attempt to locate features which may be preserved in the subsoil. In-depth analysis and interpretation of the Clovis assemblage is progressing. Both a site report and a synthetic article will be written for distribution to other researchers including avocationalists and professionals alike.

To summarize, the L.D. 1 Site is extremely important in understanding the nature of Paleo-Indian settlement in the Tennessee Valley of north Alabama as well as North America. The Tennessee Valley region of North Alabama has long been known to produce large quantities of Paleo-Indian materials, including Clovis points. However, these artifacts were usually surface collected from sites having multiple components. The L.D. 1 Site offers a unique opportunity to isolate a Clovis lithic assemblage which may be compared to later (earlier) assemblages as well as with other Clovis assemblages from North America. It is hoped that future testing will produce intact subsurface features which could potentially produce material for radiocarbon dating. Plans for a geomorphic study of the site and surrounding environs as well as exploring nearby sinks in hopes of recovering data relevant to environmental reconstruction are also being made.

H. Blaine Ensor
Panamerican Consultants, Inc.
Tuscaloosa

JOURNEY TO EL PETEN

End the old year and begin the new with the adventure of a lifetime! Join the Alabama Natural History Society's tour of Guatemala's El Petén region, a vast area of hardwood forests, jungles, grassy savannas, lakes and Mayan ruins.

You will visit the ancient cities of the Maya, including the city of Uaxactún and the great ceremonial center of Tikal. Noted for its steep-sided pyramids and abundant wildlife, Tikal is the home for more than 280 species of birds. Relive the experiences of early explorers by camping at the foot of ancient ruins. Celebrate the New Year in a unique setting. Return from the forests to the sights and sounds of the capital, Guatemala City, for shopping and sightseeing.

Tour leader Dr. Tom Rogers (curator of Ornithology, Alabama Museum of Natural History) will be your guide to the diverse birdlife of this region. Dr. Rogers is a zoologist-ecologist with extensive research experience on bird migration in Latin America. He joined the University of Alabama faculty in 1965 and is now a Professor of Biology and member of the Latin American Studies faculty. In 1986 he began working in a cooperative project to establish national parks in El Petén; in 1988 he was given an award for his efforts on behalf of the parks.

Dr. Rogers has taught courses at La Universidad de San Carlos in Guatemala City and the branch campus in Flores, Petén. He has studied bird migration on the Caribbean coast and taught

"Birds of Guatemala" on both the Caribbean and Pacific coasts. Dr. Rogers will share his expertise in species identification as well as his love for the forests of this region.

Award-winning professional photographer Mark Dauber will share his expertise with you. Mr. Dauber's experience in architectural photography, including Mayan ruins, will assure your success in capturing the beauty of the ruins and natural settings. Mr. Dauber's photographs have been seen in the exhibits "In View of Home" at the Huntsville Museum of Art and "Palladio in Alabama", an exhibit of architectural photography for the Montgomery Museum of Fine Art.

The tour is limited to a minimum of 18 and a maximum of 20 participants. For additional information call 205/348-2040 or write Journey, Alabama Museum of Natural History; P.O. Box 870340; Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0340.

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

The Huntsville Chapter met on July 28 to hear Preston Watts speak on Biblical archaeology. On August 25, H. Blaine Ensor presented two video tapes on Alabama archaeology: one, a silent film, on archaeological excavations and techniques in the Tennessee Valley during WPA days; the second, an overview of the work to date on Dust Cave near Florence.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Public Library on St. Clair Avenue. The public is welcome.

Troy State Chapter

At the March meeting, archaeologist Ned Jenkins spoke to the chapter on archaeological investigations at Fort Toulouse, where he is the Park Director. Ned also informed the chapter about the living history program at the park, as well as future plans for the program.

At the April meeting, Troy State Professor McDonald Brooms gave a presentation on the Mississippian Period complete with a slide show of major Mississippian sites in the eastern United States. The chapter also participated in the test investigations of an 1854 historic house site in Pike County near China Grove.

The May meeting was used to discuss chapter plans for a trip to Moundville. The chapter was to visit the site on May 22nd and stay over to attend the Mid-South Archaeological Conference, held May 23rd at the park.

Congratulations to chapter member and past chapter president Dan Shinn. Dan graduated winter quarter from Troy State and will

be attending graduate school at the University of Alabama this fall. Dan received a \$6,500 teaching assistantship from the Anthropology Department for the 1992-93 term.

The Troy State Chapter meets the first Thursday of each month at the archaeology laboratory in Smith Hall. Anyone interested in archaeology from the wiregrass area is encouraged to join the chapter. Contact the archaeology lab at 670-3517 or McDonald Brooms at 670-3510 for information.

1992 SUMMER MEETING

The 1992 Summer Meeting of the Alabama Archaeological Society was at Dust Cave in Lauderdale County on July 11, where an archaeological dig was under way.

Dust Cave is reached in three stages of travel, first by automobile, then by four-wheel-drive vehicle, and the last stage may be by boat or on foot. The boat ride is through backwater sloughs to the site, while the walking route is across a swamp with boggy ground, across footlogs over sloughs with stands of cypress trees.

The entrance to Dust Cave is on a bluff above a slough. This slough is at the edge of the Pickwick Lake backwater. The water level in the slough fluctuates as the level of Pickwick Lake is raised or lowered.

Excavated dirt from Dust Cave was water screened on a barge moored in the slough below the cave entrance. The dirt was transported from cave to barge in buckets riding a cable. One end of the cable was secured at the cave entrance, and the other end on the barge. Buckets filled with dirt went down the cable to the barge; empty buckets came back up to the cave.

The archaeologists lived in a tent camp at the site. Their facilities included a kitchen and dining tent, where their meals were prepared and served. Their staff included a cook. These preparations made the camp self sufficient for days at a time, with no necessity for frequent trips out.

The Dust Cave dig was directed by Dr. Boyce Driskell of the University of Alabama Office of Archaeological Research. Dr. Driskell estimates that about five more seasons of digging will be required to complete the project. From dating of artifacts that have been found, and from the fact that no pottery has been found, it is believed that the age of the site is pre-pottery.

It will be interesting to see what new information is revealed as the dig continues.

O. D. Hartley
Huntsville

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

Vol. 20-31, each issue	\$3.50 pp
Vol. 32 & up, each issue	\$6.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint	\$7.50 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama</i>	\$6.00 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$8.00 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>	\$15.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$10.00 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)	\$9.00 pp

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1 Mound State Monument; Moundville, AL 35474

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