

# Alabama Archaeological Society

## *Stones & Bones*

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April 1995

**Editor:**

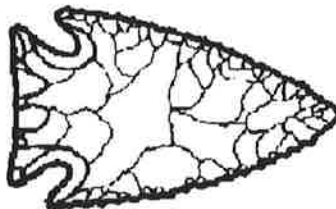
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### Congress to Review Federal Historic Preservation Laws

The following is a letter from U. S. Representatives James Hansen, Wayne Allard, and Barbara Vucanovich to Mr. Robert Bush, the Executive Director to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Dear Mr. Bush,

A number of our constituents have contacted us regarding your recently issued proposed rules on protection of historic properties. After careful review of that proposed rule, their comments, and recently enacted amendments to the National Historic Preservation Act, it is our conclusion that this proposed rule should be withdrawn, rewritten, and re-issued in draft for additional public comment. Simply stated, it is unacceptable to us that any agency would propose burdensome new regulations on our already over-regulated society, particularly when these regulations exceed the authority of the underlying issue.

The statement in your Impact Analysis that "The Council's regulations in their current and revised form only impose obligations on federal agencies" leads us to wonder if you really understand the scope and effect of your own regulations. Compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act is already costing both government and the private sector tens of millions of dollars annually. The cumulative impact of your proposed rule, including such newly articulated policies as requiring that destruction of historic properties always be the "last resort" is that the cost of compliance will increase substantially. Under your proposed regulations, federal agencies will have every incentive to pass increased costs on to an already overburdened private sector and little incentive to reduce overall regulation costs.

Time and time again, whether it be implementation of the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, or a myriad of other environmental laws, we have seen federal agencies extend the scope and effect of the law through the regulatory process. The American public and Congress will no longer tolerate such action by federal agencies. Aspects of your proposed rule which violate this principle, such as the redefinition of the area of potential effects, must be revised.

Two other aspects of your proposed regulations, which are particularly troublesome, are the open-minded time frames and unlimited public standing. While it is a concept largely foreign to most federal agencies, time is money to the private sector. The lack of discrete time frames for many aspects of your proposed rule and the opportunity for reopeners at almost any point (even after the conclusion of the 106 process) must be addressed. Similarly, the open invitation for anyone, at virtually any time in the process, to become an obstructionist for the cost of a 32-cent stamp must be changed. Public involvement is necessary and appropriate but it must be limited to a fashion similar to that provided in the National Environmental Policy Act where input is sought at the outset and at a single point in time prior to final decision making. Private parties with some level of standing with respect to a particular proposal should be offered an increased, though still structured, opportunity for input.

By way of further background, we point out to you that a January 11 hearing before the Interior Subcommittee on Appropriations, several private institutions advocated elimination of all funding for the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. We are not yet convinced that such action is appropriate, since we believe there is every opportunity for the Advisory Council to return to its role as a facilitator in the implementation of the Historic Preservation Act, rather than another layer of federal bureaucracy sitting in judgement over federal agencies and of the private sector. Toward that end, we request that no later than 60 days from the date and receipt of this letter you transmit, to the Chairman of the House of National Parks, Forests, and Lands Subcommittee, amendments which will reduce the regulatory burden of the Act, ensure protection of private property, and ensure that the efforts of the federal government are focused on the most important historic properties in the country.

*The archaeological community can not idly sit by and let Congress do away with laws that protect archaeological sites. The editors*

*encourage you to write your Congress men and women about this issue. We are also curious about your feelings on this Review of the Federal Historic Preservation Laws. Send comments to 304 Wallace Hall, TSU, Troy AL, 36082. If you would like to contact the members of your congressional delegation they will receive mail addressed as follows:*

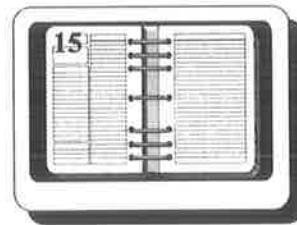
The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
US. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC. 20515

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_  
US. Senate  
Washington, DC. 20510.

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## The Calendar

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**April 28, 1995 - Native American Day:**  
FDR's Little White House, Warm Springs, Ga.  
Contact Charles Barnes or Mary Thrash at (706) 655-5870.

**May 3-7, 1995 - Society for American Archaeology** will hold its annual meetings in Minneapolis, MN. Contact: SAA, 900 2nd Street, NE, #12, Washington DC 20002, 202-789-8200.

**June 2-4, 1995 - Mid-South Archaeological Conference** will be held in Jackson, MS. For further information, contact Sam Brooks, (601) 965-5518 or Sam Peacock, (601) 285-3264.

**October 26-29, 1995 - The Eastern States Archaeological Federation** will be hosted by the Archaeological Society of Delaware. Individuals or groups wishing to make presentations should submit symposium proposals with disk abstracts (on Word Perfect 5.2 or 6.0 disk) and/or paper abstracts as well as names, addresses, and phone numbers of individual presenters to the program chair by June 1, 1995. Send to: Faye L. Stocum - Program Chair, Delaware State Historic Preservation Office, #15 the Green, Dover, DE 19901. Ph. (302) 739-5685, fax (302) 739-5660. The meeting will be held at Radisson Hotel, on Concord Pike (Route 202), North Wilmington. Room rates will be \$64 (single or double) which includes continental breakfast. For those requiring display space or special arrangements to attend, according to the American Disabilities Act, please contact: Ronald A. Thomas, MAAR Associates, Inc., PO Box 655, Newark, DE 19715. Ph. (302) 368-5777, fax (302) 368-1571.

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## New Publications

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**Guide to the Identification of American Indian Projectile Points.** *Robert E. Bell and Gregory Perino.* A set of four volumes which reports descriptions, dating, and geographic distributions of 200 dart and arrow point types, ranging from the earliest Paleoindian Clovis to Historic Period metal arrow points. The four volumes total 428 pages in length, and illustrate

1,789 projectile points. First published between 1958 and 1971, these guides are classics of North American Archaeology. The guides are still available as a set for the price of \$36.50 post paid. Send your order to: The Oklahoma Anthropological Society. Rt. 1, Box 62-B, Cheyenne, OK, 73628-9729.

**Anthropologists at Work: Careers Making a Difference.** (*video*) This 36-minute video depicts anthropological careers in all four subfields, focusing on the skills required and the rewards associated with these careers. The video captures anthropologists working at home and abroad in diverse settings: from the government and human services to manufacturing; conducting research; implementing policy; teaching and providing expertise in the areas of health, development, education and the corporate world. The video is now available for purchase: \$25 (students, NAPA members); \$30 (professionals, non-NAPA members); \$35 (organizations, institutions). Make checks payable to the American Anthropological Association and send to American Anthropological Association Careers Video, 4350 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 640, Arlington VA 22203-1621, (703) 528-1902 ext 3032.

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## Stewardship Program Initiative in Arkansas

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Twenty years ago Frank Schambach proposed the idea of a stewardship program for the protection of sites and several years later Arizona and Texas took advantage of that idea to set up such programs. Hester Davis wrote an article in the November/ December Arkansas Archaeological Society *Field Notes* proposing that Arkansas was ready for such a program. To quote Hester:

"Very briefly, a Stewardship Program sets a network of people who volunteer to be a STEWARD for a particular site or sites, working

with landowners to monitor the site to see that neither nature (erosion, tree falls) nor people (pot hunters, tenants) have damaged the site. Each Steward would visit the site, perhaps quarterly, and make a report to the chair of the network, to the land owner, and to the Station Archaeologist. Solutions to problems would be reached with mutual help from many sources. Rewards for land owners and Stewards could be instituted, annual meetings and perhaps a newsletter would keep Stewards and landowners acquainted with the program and its successes- and failures, this is basically how the nationally known Arizona and Texas programs work."

Remember the bulldozing on the Poverty Point site just a couple of years ago? Closer to home, remember the rape of the Oliver site? If what people really want is less government- and in Mississippi we don't have enough archaeologists to go around as it is- then people themselves will have to help protect sites.

*(Taken from the Mississippi Archaeological Association Newsletter)*

Responding to the January, 1995 issue of the Mississippi Archaeological Association Newsletter, Mr. Cliff Jenkins of the USDA Forest Service wrote to the *Stones & Bones* stating that "this program seems like it would be especially good for some of the rock shelter sites in Alabama, and would give AAS members an opportunity to become directly involved in the protection and monitoring of archaeological sites."

The *editors* thought that our members might be interested in what other states are currently involved in. Perhaps this Stewardship program is something that can be tried in Alabama. We would love to hear from you on this subject. Write the editors at 304 Wallace Hall, TSU, Troy AL, 36082. Also, Mr. Jenkins would be glad to assist anyone currently pursuing this idea. He can be reached at 1000 North Street, Talladega, AL, 35160, 205-362-2909.

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## Highlights of the Spring Board of Directors Meeting

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The Spring meeting of the AAS Board of Directors was held on April 4th, at the Ox Restaurant in Birmingham. Highlights of the meeting included discussions regarding the AAS summer field school, the summer meeting, public education, and committee duties. In addition, new appointments were made to committees.

The summer field school will be held at the historic Creek site of Fusihatchee in Elmore County. This year it will be held in conjunction with the University of Alabama's Museum of Natural History summer research program for high school students. At the request of the Museum, the Board voted to increase the cost of the field school to \$150.00 this year since the Museum will be hosting the field school and will provide everything needed including food, camping equipment, and all supplies. The Board also voted to make a request to the Alabama Historical Commission to provide \$500.00 in scholarships for high school students to attend the field school as they did last year.

The Board voted to hold the summer meeting at Fort Toulouse State Park on a "living history" weekend with a trip to the site of Fusihatchee during the course of the day. July 15th was the preferred date but arrangements must first be worked out with Fort Toulouse State Park and AUM and Auburn University, the institutions conducting the excavations at Fusihatchee.

In conjunction with a discussion regarding the need for a strong public education program, it was brought to the Board's attention that the Alabama Historical Commission will sponsor an "Alabama Archaeology Month" instead of just one week as it has been in the past. The dates for the event will be from September 15th to October 15th, 1995, and the theme for this year will be "Alabama: Visit Your Past." The Board members agreed that the AAS will make a major effort to

get every chapter involved in public education projects during this period.

The final highlight of the meeting was a discussion of the standing and ad hoc committees of the AAS. Several committee positions were filled by the president but several positions remain vacant. Below is a list of committees, existing members, and positions that are vacant. If you would like to serve in one of the vacant positions, please contact Joe Copeland at 205-760-4402 or the committee chairperson as soon as possible:

Finance Committee

John Van Valkenburg - chair  
Eugene Futato  
1 vacant position

Archaeological Resources Committee

Tim Mistovich - chair  
Van King  
Charles Moore  
3 vacant positions

Archives Committee

Amos Wright - chair

Program Committee

Linda Derry - chair  
Julie Lyons  
Linda Stein  
Eugene Futato

Publicity Committee

McDonald Brooms - chair  
Natalie Maddox  
1 vacant position

Publications Committee

Bart Henson - chair  
2 vacant positions

Education Committee

Linda Derry - chair  
McDonald Brooms  
Natalie Maddox  
Steven Merridith

Scholarship Committee

McDonald Brooms - chair  
Ian Brown  
1 vacant position

In addition to the above committees, the Board decided to continue the membership committee but to wait until the summer Board meeting to appoint its members.

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## In The Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

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Twenty-six years ago Mrs. John Bradshaw entertained the Birmingham chapter with a slide-illustrated discussion on the "Indians of Atmore". Dr. Bert Hayes, an Athens professor, gave a slide show of areas surrounding Palestine which played an important part in the development of man. William M. Spencer, an Archaeological Society member, was elected man of the year in Birmingham. (*Taken from the Stones & Bones of April 1969.*)

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## AAS Summer Field School

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The Alabama Archaeological Society will hold its annual summer field school this year at the historic Creek site of Fusihatchee in Elmore County. The AAS field school will be held in conjunction with the Auburn University and Auburn University in Montgomery field school. Dr. John Cottier and Dr. Craig Sheldon have been

working on this site for over ten years. They have managed to salvage much of the archaeological data from gravel mining operations.

Take advantage of this opportunity to work on one of the richest and most important historic Indian sites in Alabama and the Southeast. The field school will be operated much like it has been the last few years with individuals having the opportunity to participate for one week intervals during June and July.

The field school will be held June 18 - July 15, 1995. Each session begins on Sunday afternoon and ends on the following Saturday. Cost for members of the Alabama Archaeology Society is \$150/week. Weeks are filled on a first come, first served basis. It is important to register early to insure your choice of weeks. Contact Eugene Futato at 205-371-2266.



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## Mummy Makers

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Robert Brier, an Egyptologist at Long Island University and Ronald Wade, director of the Anatomical Board of Maryland, have mummified a human body by using the tools and procedures of the ancient Egyptians.

Before wrapping the body, which was donated for research, the two scientists extracted

the brain with bronze hooks and removed the contents of the abdomen by cutting the body with an obsidian blade. Organs such as the intestines, liver, and stomach were placed in re-creations of ancient Egyptians canopic jars. The organs were removed because they were moist and would spoil the body and they were preserved in the jars so the deceased would have a complete body in the next world. The body cavity was thoroughly washed with palm wine first then a solution of pounded spices. The cavity was packed with natron and myrrh, and natron was heaped over the body. Natron essentially is a natural baking soda composed primarily of sodium bicarbonate, bicarbonate, and chloride, and its purpose is to dehydrate the body. The spices and myrrh were used to preserve the body and reduce odor. After a 35-day drying period, the body was washed out again and wrapped in linen cut into thin strips and smeared on the underside with resin, the Egyptian glue. The process required 600 pounds of natron and 100 yards of pure linen.

"Our research does not change our basic understanding of mummification," says Brier. "but it does answer some basic questions." Egyptologists, for example, had identified one type of bronze tool as a "necrotome" (death-knife). The replica necrotome made by Brier was an ordinary razor rather than an embalmer's tool. Periodically, Brier and Wade will sample tissue from the body to study the effects of natron on cell preservation. (*Taken from Archaeology, Nov./Dec. 1994*)

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## Update on the Paleo Point Survey

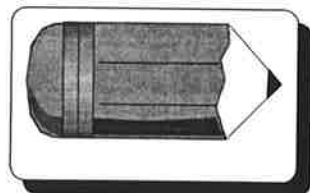
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A total of 217 points have been recorded so far this year in the Paleo Point Survey. The most significant batch of data added to the Survey this year was ninety-six points that came from one collection in North Alabama. An additional 106 projectile points came from Heavens Half Acre which is a sink compound in eastern Colbert

County. We urge our members to continue to contribute to the Paleo Point Survey.



## Useful Information



Several requests have been made for information regarding where to get State Archaeological Site Forms and how to get copies of topographic maps for the state of Alabama.

For USGS 7 1/2 minute topographical maps write or call:

Geological Survey of Alabama  
Publication Sales Department  
P.O. Box 0  
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35486  
205-349-2859 ext. 303

The cost per map is three dollars and this includes shipping and handling. Also available upon request are state indexes.

For Alabama State Archaeological Site Forms write or call:

Eugene Futato  
Archaeology Division  
13075 Moundville Archaeological Park  
Moundville, Alabama 35474  
205-371-2266

Also available upon request are instructions on the correct way to fill out the site form.

## Member News

The death of David C. Hulse of Decatur marks the passing of another member of the founders of the Alabama Archaeological Society in 1955. David was closely associated with Jack Cambron, a highly regarded avocational archaeologist known for his expertise in identification of flint artifacts- especially projectile points. David had a long interest in archaeology that culminated in his outstanding illustrations in the "Handbook of Alabama Archaeology." His illustrations also appeared in articles in the "Journal of Alabama Archaeology," usually co-authored by Cambron. David was an illustrator by profession and spent many hours on Wheeler Lake painting waterfowl and related subjects. We should pause and reflect on the passing of David and others who early on recognized the need for study and preservation of our archaeological heritage.

*Amos J. Wright Jr.*

*David C. Hulse passed away on June 23, 1994, after a battle with cancer.*

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## Chapter News

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### *East Alabama...*

held their March meeting on Tuesday, March 14th. Ian Brown of the Alabama Museum of Natural History, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, presented the program. He spoke on Recent Excavations at the Bottle Creek Site, Baldwin County, Alabama.

The Bottle Creek Site is located about thirty miles northeast of Mobile. It is believed to date back at least to 1250 AD. and was occupied as late as the 18th Century. Evidence indicates that it was an important ceremonial center of the boat-oriented culture in the Mobile delta. The site includes sixteen mounds, the largest of which is about the same height as the largest one at Moundville. Ian Brown has directed the excavations at the Bottle Creek site for the past three years under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The East Alabama Chapter will not hold an April meeting. The May meeting will be held on schedule; May 9th in the Alabama Power Company Auditorium, 230 N. Gay Street, Auburn. Bob Cason, Collections Curator, Division of Special Collections, Archives & History in Montgomery, will present an overview of their collections focusing on the archaeological holdings.

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## A Note from the Editors

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The *editors* of the *Stones & Bones* would like to extend a warm welcome to a new member of our staff *Brad Solomon*, a student at Troy State University majoring in anthropology. *Brad* will be replacing one of the current *associate editors*, *Gwen Barron*, who has relocated to Florida. All of the current *editors* (*Gwen Barron*, *Garnet Garvin*, and *April Smith*) will be leaving by July to pursue careers in archaeology and to attend graduate schools in different parts of the United States. The names of the other two new *associate editors* will be published in future issues of the society newsletter. Look forward to meeting your new *editors* at the Summer Meeting at Fusihatchee.

We wish *Gwen* well in her endeavours and want to extend our thanks for all her hard work on the *Stones & Bones* during the last two years.

*Garnet, April, and Mac*



## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

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

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Send Checks To: Journal Editor, A.A. S  
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13075 Moundville Archaeological Park  
Moundville, AL 35474

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