Alabama Archaeological Society

FILE

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

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STONES & BONES
NEWSLETTER

NADB DOC # - 4,056,582

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1963 STANFIELD-WORLEY DIG COMPLETED

(This is a preliminary report on the dig, prepared at the conclusion of work at the shelter, and it is neither intended to be statistically exact nor finally interpreted archaeologically):

On Friday, August 16th, work was completed at the Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter (Ct 125). This marked the culmination of 2 seasons ('61 and '63) at the shelter. All the material excavated this summer is now at Moundville being processed, after which it will be moved to the University laboratory for further study when the fall term begins and eventual preparation of a report to appear in the Society's Journal.

Evidence found at Ct 125 during the '63 summer excavation tends to substantiate previous conceptions of the intermittent occupation of "3 and possibly 4 cultural stages". In the Woodland and Mississippian levels of the site, the percentage of projectile points was relatively high in comparison with the percentage of pottery.

The majority of projectile points came from the Woodland cultural stage, but there was a good representative selection from the fluted Dalton to the Mississippian triangles. From the Early Archaic period, approximately 40 Daltons (25 Greenbriar and 15 Colbert) and 16 Big Sandys were found.

The pottery types ranged from the transitional fiber tempers of Early Woodland to Mississippian shell temper. Limestone and clay-grit tempers were the more frequent.

Fourteen burials were excavated, including 5 round grave fully flexed and 9 partly flexed. No artifacts were recovered with the burials, making cultural provenience difficult to establish.

Fifty-five features were encountered, consisting of fire hearths and pits, fired occupational floor levels, storage pits, post holes and refuse pits.

An area with of the rock fall was excavated, but material found was relatively sparse. The occupational depth averaged 2½ feet in this area and consisted mostly of the Woodland stage. One square was taken to a depth of 6 feet, with the last 3½ feet being completely void of occupational evidence.

Also, an area extending north from the northern profile extremity of the '61 dig was excavated. It, too, proved to be very shallow in depth, and yielded scanty cultural materials.

The major section of the site seems to have been near the center of the shelter where the occupational level reaches its greatest depth, and represents the area which was excavated during the '61 season. The extremities, both north and south of this area, being the area excavated during the '63 season, tend to pinch out in relation to occupational depth. It is now considered that from an archaeological standpoint, the full potential of this site has been exhausted as far as actual digging in the ground is concerned, but the study of material recovered will continue indefinitely.

\$\$\$\$ --- FINANCIAL PAGE --- \$\$\$\$ (No more fund drive)

Yes, it is true that you will be exposed to no more urging - and we hope it will be half the relief to you that it is to us! The really heartbreaking thing about a fund drive is not to be on the receiving end, but on the sending end - to have a good cause, a great cause, which only a few dollars per person would put over the top...and yet not be able to tell the story and share our enthusiasm effectively. What with letters and Newsletters, we have poured about 320,000 words into campaigning, educating, soliciting and thanking during the past 6 months - about 4 average books. So we are happy to assure you, and you may be happy to know, that those who run a fund drive really pay for their sins!

But, glory be, and thanks to a lot of wonderful people who also saw the vision of at last doing something intelligent about our remarkable and neglected Alabama archaeology, WE ALMOST MADE IT. We are a few dollars short of our goal of \$7,000.00, but we can "squeeze by". Of course we hoped we might go OVER our goal - for as our Stanfield-Worley publication taught us, our minimum aims do not cover publishing costs. Also, C-l4 testing is now available for only \$160 per sample, results in about 30 days - which would be so much better than waiting a year or two to get free service, when the thrill rather an anti-climax, like waiting a year to get the solution to a murder mystery story.

However, there are probably a good many readers who have "put it off", as we commonly do, and will want their names as donors in the final published report. Personally, we consider it a real honor, as well as a great contribution, to be a part of the ONLY annual fund drive in archaeology. So, though you will be spared further soliciting, THE OPPORTUNITY TO DONATE to the 1963 fund drive WILL REMAIN OPEN THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THIS YEAR. (And PLEASE correct our donor list, to date, so the list in our next publication will be complete and accurate!). Additions since the last issue are:

James Floyd Anderson makes his "perfect Score" as a 4-year donor (and we must correct our former error: there were 43 Charter Donors, not 34). Furthermore, Mr. Anderson was our "one-man Chapter" in '61, sending in scads of donations from several states!

Mr. & Mrs. P. E. Behr, encouraging newcomers proving we can still GROW, send with their good check: "This contribution is being made in honor of Milton Harris who so richly deserves recognition for his outstanding work for this most worthwhile organization." That "double donation" won't get a bit of argument!

A. J. Weaver, another NEW donor, is also an ARCHER, Tom Cornell, our "Huntsville hustler", writes, and is preparing "a program on the problems of stone-age man in making the bow and arrows". We surely have neglected the bow, one of man's really great inventions, so congratulations to Mr. Weaver. Tom, on the basis of "a Cumberland point from Morgan County that really is a beauty" opines that Early Man was a pretty smart cookie. And he reports: "We are going to the dig with the Boy Scout Troop next weekend for 2 days" (July 27-28). Good work!

Rodger Schaefer (than which we don't think any State Society has a better Secretary) sends in a hunk of cash donations "from members of the Decatur Chapter" without naming them. We wrote that we should like to grant them personal recognition, but have received no answer. Perhaps when they readour alphabetical list they will send in the information, but in the meantime we can pay our respects to a very fine Chapter. The one check is from Dossey White, our geologist, who as a student also dug with Dave during our famous '61 Stanfield-Worley excavation. It is good to see his continuing interest in archaeology, for we need all the help we can get from geologists.

Martin Hullender sends his donation again - and our list would not be complete without the Hullenders. Martin & Elvira for many years served as Secretary, Treasurer, President of the Birmingham Anthropological Society, and also shouldered the considerable load of getting out our Newsletter. We too easily forget how much work is attached to organization, and how necessary it is to hold an organization together. Our thanks to the Hullenders for many years of good work, as well as their continuing donations to archaeology.

Joe Watkins (Joseph F. Jr.) a relative newcomer to archaeology, joins us as another NEW donor. We are a bit astonished by Joe's "meteoric rise" in archaeology, as he is the current President of the Birmingham Chapter. What is more, he is doing a heck of a good job, going at it systematically and getting out notices, reflecting the training of a good business man (Odum, Bowers & White). Archaeology surely can use administrative talent.

Margaret Gresham Livingston (Mrs. James A. Jr.), a '61 donor, joins us again this year. Margaret assisted Jim McCary with his inspired Birmingham Country Club classes in archaeology which were such a success in 1961. Jim got out letters to the students this year, and it is good to see how many "graduates" remembered their lessons (and indoctrination!).

Dan Josselvn, sticking to his promise to donate monthly until our drive closed, is also inspired this month by Mr. & Mrs. Behr's "contribution in honor of Milton Harris" to contribute "in honor of Bea Harris, who pulls in double harness with Milt, doers, donors, diggers, delightful folks."

MANY, MANY THANKS to the many good people who have made possible another "democratic dig" BY THE PEOPLE again this year. Your names will be recorded in the books as long as there is archaeology. Our records will also be open for the remainder of the year to those who would like to make up our \$227 shortage - or, indeed, turn the shortage into an always useable SURPLUS.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS THIS YEAR

As promised last month, here is the list of appreciated contributors who have made the dig this year possible. Donors who are not members of our State Society are indicated by an asterisk along the left margin. At the extreme right, we have attempted to show preceding years during which 1963 donors made contributions. We sincerely hope this listing is complete and accurate, but PLEASE let us know if we slipped!

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TUSCALOOSA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Jewel Green, Secy., Tuscaloosa, Ala.

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(Note that out-of-State donors are underlined. These fine people are responsible for \$1,168.00 of the total amount received to date!).

NEXT MONTH, YOUR NEWSLETTER WILL CONTAIN AS COMPLETE A LISTING AS WE ARE ABLE TO ASSEM-BLE OF ALL THE FOLKS WHO DONATED VOLUNTEER LABOR AT THE DIG, AND TRY TO PROPERLY THANK VERNE RECKMEYER OF OUR HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER FOR HIS FINE WORK IN COORDINATING THIS JOB.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Madison-Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at St. Thomas Church in Huntsville. No report received.

The Marshall County Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Reid's Restaurant in Guntersville. At the August meeting, Dr. A. G. Long, using a chalk board, discussed the general characteristics and major features of projectile point types, followed by a series of color slides of 80% of the actual points to be used by Jack Cambron in his forthcoming point type handbook. At the September meeting, A. B. Hooper III will discuss "Western Plains Indians", he having just returned from a vacation out West and in California. He will show color slides of current Western Indian activities, and give brief sketches of Early Man in America.

The Mauvilla Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Mobile Public Library. At the July meeting, Mr. Nicholas Holmes Jr. talked to the Chapter on "Mayan Archaeology As Exemplified by Architectural Ruins". At the August meeting, Mr. George F. Brockman, a local Consulting Geologist, will discuss "Paleoclimate and Geographic Changes, Mobile Bay Area, 6,500 B.C. to 1963 A.D.".

The Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets on the 1st Monday of each month at the Electric Auditorium, Decatur. At the August Meeting, Mrs. Fred G. Heil Jr. gave a most excellent talk, illustrated with color slides, on "Mexican Archaeology".

The Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Wesleyan Hall, Room 8, Florence State College. At the July meeting, Bennett Graham, graduate archaeology student and assistant to Dave DeJarnette at the Stanfield-Worley dig this summer, gave a most interesting talk, illustrated with colored slides, on "Costa Rica".

The Noccalula Chapter meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. At the August meeting, David L. DeJarnette showed and discussed slides on the Stanfield-Worley excavations, emphasizing that close to ideal conditions

prevailed to preserve evidences of cultures that could have existed 10,000 years ago. Present at the meeting were 18 members and 10 visitors.

The Birmingham, East Alabama, Montgomery & Tuscaloosa Chapters did not meet in August.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR AUGUST: (Your State Society now numbers 400 active members!)

Tom Beck, P. O. Box 1151, Huntsville, Ala.

C. B. Cosby, 117 N. 77th St., Birmingham, Ala.

Joe M. Duck Jr., P. O. Box 441, Sylacauga, Ala.

Jim Felder III, 409 Suhill Road S.E., Huntsville, Ala.

Forrest M. Hall, Route 2 Box 68-B, Eclectic, Ala.

Ray Hall, Route 2 Box 68-B, Eclectic, Ala.

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Dr. & Mrs. P. R. Tunstall, 17 N. Monterey St., Mobile, Ala. 36604

Mrs. Ruby Walter, Lacey's Spring, Ala.

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WOW! Dr. T. M. N. Lewis, who got southeastern amateurs "out of the shoebox" and into archaeology, does us proud on our Stanfield-Worley report: "an excellent report ...a real contribution...the Alabama Archaeological Society to be congratulated for carrying to completion a project of this magnitude...especially interesting to us is the establishment of a uniface tool complex for the Dalton period. Heretofore, sites like Quad and Nickolls have produced an abundance of uniface tools and Paleo-Indian points, as well as Dalton and other early Archaic points. But it was never too clear that the uniface tools were associated with both horizons." Nice praise by a nice guy.

Dr. Tom and Madeline, in wonderful retirement, built on a lake-front lot and listen to this, as usual, pretty tall fish story: "In just a few minutes' fishing off our dock yesterday the wife caught a 3-pound bass; on Sunday in a very short time she caught three...".

Dr. T. M. N. Lewis (again)...why, Dr. Tom wrote just the other day - see his exciting comments above. What could this be? Well, how nice!: "Forgot to enclose this with my last letter" - his donation! We so well remember, back in '61, when our fund drive began to be a success, in commenting on it as a real victory, we mentioned that our good friend and mentor, Dr. Lewis, hadn't thought it possible. In the following Newsletter, June, he "threw in the sponge" with: "This much deserved needling I am getting in your Newsletter prompts me to realize that I have lost a bet. My check is enclosed. I did not believe your aim could be accomplished..." It is good, in this one case, to have caught him in error! However, we should like to tell Dr. Tom that he long ago paid his "Debt in full" to archaeology - but we are indeed proud to have him on our list.

Charles V. Brosemer played host to <u>Dr. Vernon Leslie</u>, Director of the Pennsylvania Institute of Anthropology - a couple of good guys so we are sure they had a pleasant visit. And this hospitality might well be copied, for the world knows too little about our archaeoogy and it has to be seen to be believed. We are very sorry to report that Charles lost his dog. We know from experience that it is pretty rough to lose "man's best friend", particularly when living along, and wish to express regrets for all of Charles' many friends. But Charles is quite a philosopher, among his other generous talents. We particularly like this remark of his: "Just because a fellow has a sheep-skin, it doesn't necessarily mean he doesn't have a goat head."

Dave DeJarnette was very pleased with a fine letter he received from Francis Smith, Editor of SOUTHERN POWER & INDUSTRY, following the highly successful workshop weekend at

the shelter: "You people certainly provided an interesting and pleasant outing... I was surprised at the scope and value of the job you are doing...Certainly we can all be proud of you and your organization (and our) part in it. Margaret particularly wanted me to let you know how much we enjoyed being associated with your young people...a fine group of boys and girls...the day all too short...We did get to stop by and visit with Mr. Worley...certainly is an interesting person...Please also thank Mrs. DeJarnette for us...We felt that she was particularly courteous and attentive...we enjoyed her very much." (How often do we remember to put our good thoughts into a letter?) Dave's appended note with the Marfax copy of Francis' letter includes: "We enjoyed the Smiths very much..."

Chris (Mrs. Warren) Johnson writes for some "literature" to spread around Auburn. And Barbara (Mrs. Philin) Jackson writes that she thinks she has introduced archaeology to a nice family who would make excellent members, and also that we might send some literature to the Allen Rushtons. If we'll keep at it, over the years we can "excavate" most of the talent in Alabama. Thanks indeed to Chris and Barbara. Margaret Smith makes a habit of sending in names of prospects, this month Dr. Belford C. Blaine of Atlanta - a profession famous for its major contributions to amateur archaeology. Margaret is also a steady correspondent and writes that Dr. Kelly "is doing a stupendous job with a large crew of students and local labor in an endeavor to get as much done as he can" in the area to be inundated by Carters Quarters Dam. Also, "To make the great earthen dam, millions of yards of dirt...will be taken from...where hundreds of sites are...We watched while one boy uncovered a 7-foot skeleton...beneath the floor of an approximately 40 by 70-foot structure...largest post holes I ever saw." SEND IN YOUR PROSPECTS AND NEWS ITEMS!

SOME PERSONS ARE LUCKTER THAN OTHERS: Your Editor has been in the enviable position lately of getting more free meals and meeting more nice folks than usually comes one's way. A talk given before the Downtown (B'ham) Kiwanis Club in the early part of August apparently sifted through to the Sylacauga Kiwanis Club. Their members were joined by some folks from Talladega, also Kiwanians, and a fine time talking about archaeology was had by all. Joe Duck and Ed Smith are newly signed members from this group, and we welcome them aboard with all enthusiasm. Sylacauga is rich in archaeological sites, and we do hope enough activity is generated to perhaps come up with an llth Chapter.

One of the most delightful definitions we have ever heard of optimism and pessimism is: "An optimist is one who believes this is the best possible world, and a pessimist is one who is afraid he may be right". But that doesn't stop our optimists, since your Editor again has on Tuesday, Sept. 3, a dinner meeting with the Shades Valley Optimists, and on Thursday, Sept. 12th, a luncheon meeting with the Downtown Optimists.

Your Editor hopes that Optimists (pun intented) attract.

On Sept. 5th, Dr. & Mrs. Lindsey, a pair of hard workers for our Noccalula Chapter, have concluded would be a good date to inflict your Editor on their monthly meeting attendants. Since no assignment of topic was made, it is very difficult to tell what facet of archaeology, if any, will be covered. It probably serves them right. They should have gotten a contract and had these things spelled out. This may teach them the bitter lesson that they should be very careful about arranging their programs.

On Wednesday, Sept. 11th, the Fleur de Lis Garden Club starts off a procession of Garden Club engagements for your Editor. It is obvious that these ladies who are members of this and other Garden Clubs, are willing to dig in any way, if they believe something will grow from their meeting. Surprisingly, a true interest and enthusiasm is generated by the girls of these groups that is far deeper in most cases than that generated among male groups. This may be partially due to the practical value some knowledge of archaeology has in answering questions from inquisitive boys and girls in their families, plus the fact that archaeology, even the Sunday field surface hunting variety, is a truly delightful family pastime, with the distaff side as team leader.

To summarize, may we recommend that each of you try to be an "Ambassador for Ar-chaeology" so that we may have the biggest, as well as the best, State Society.

MORE "WHAT IN THE WORLD" EDUCATIONAL TV PROGRAMS: Channels 2, 7, 10 & 26 are still presenting every Wednesday night an archaeological quiz game titled as above. As we told you on Page 8 last month, Drs. Rainey & Coon, the permanent panelists, have most engaging personalities, and the entire group tends to be completely fascinating. The program for the next 5 weeks is as follows, and we hope you can see & listen to them:

Sept. 4th - Guests: Jacques Lipchitz, who is a noted sculptor and authority on art, and Dr. Alfred Kidder II, who has done considerable work in Peru & Ecuador.

Sept. 11th - Guests: Dr. Alfred Kidder II (again), and he will be joined by Ernest S. Dodge, Director of the Peabody Museum, Salem, Mass., who is an authority on the people and culture of the Pacific and the voyages of Capt. Cook.

Sept. 18th - Guests: Dr. Sidney Dillon Ripley II, Director of the Peabody Museum, Yale University, Conn., and a zoologist specializing in ornithology. He has done field work in Southeast Asia and New Guinea.

Sept. 25th - Guests: Jacques Lipchitz and Dr. Alfred Kidder II (see above).

Oct. 2nd - Guests: Dr. Ahmed Fakhry, Professor of History of Ancient Egypt at Carlo Univ., United Arab Republic, and one of the leading authorities on Ancient Egypt; and Dr. Alfred Kidder II (see above).

Florence, our dear Flossie, undoubtedly will not be able to reach all of her many friends, and those of the late <u>Jim</u> - who, as one of the main stems on which Alabama amateur archaeology flowered, had devoted friends all over the State. But we are sure she would like to send the beautifully engraved card of invitation to all, so we reproduce it here:

"Mrs. James Donald Wilkinson requests the honour of your presence at the marriage of her daughter Barbara Ann to Mr. Ronald Walter Vaughn on Saturday, the seventh of September nineteen hundred and sixty-three at seven o'clock in the evening, Central Park Methodist Church, Birmingham, Alabama. Reception following at the Church."

My gracious, only the other day it was "little Barbara", one of Flossie's 3 lovely daughters who came to meetings and were so friendly and polite to us "old folks", sort of snuggling warmly into our hearts. For those who cannot attend, but will want to send the best of all good wishes, the address is $1600 \, \text{Mims S}_{\text{t.}} \, \text{S.W.}$, B'ham. 11, Ala.

John T. Owen, a loyal member of the East Alabama Chapter, who passed away in August, will be greatly missed. Of his four children, Roy & John, his High School sons, have been bitten by the archaeology bug for quite a few years, and succeeded in activating their father also. He attended meetings regularly with his sons and little sister Susan.

Willis C. Hagan Jr., State Society member, has accepted appointment as Chairman of the Commercial Division of the 1964 Birmingham United Appeal. We are most happy for our members to take prominent parts in such undertakings, even when we realize the sacrifice of time and effort involved. May his labors be quickly fruitful!

MYSTERY DONOR REVEALED: A letter from Alfred W. Fowler states regarding donor Mrs. W. D. Robinson, Grant Park, Ill. (Page 4 of August Newsletter): "The Robinson family resided in the Bessemer Area for several years during which time I shared the information received from our organization with their son, Kenneth, age 12 years. Recently, Mr. Robinson took over the management of a steel mill in Illinois, moving his family out of Alabama. Kenneth, wishing to continue to receive the Newsletter, requested a membership form which I sent him." Thus, we now have both the donation and a fine new member of our State Society, of each of which we are most proud. Thanks again, Mr. Fowler.

FLINT MAY LINK HUNTERS TO STATE'S FIRST SETTLERS: We hope many State Society members, together with lots of other interested readers, enjoyed the two excellent articles by James Spotswood under the above heading, which appeared in THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS on July 15th and 25th. One contained a revealing photograph of the Stanfield-Worley shelter, and both gave most interesting accounts of the work going on there.

Mary (Mrs. George I.) Garin - Lord love that gal! - writes that "Stones & Bones is one of the most refreshing and stimulating publications we subscribe to!" Even if Mary may have indulged a bit of poetic license, and stirred in a little of the "old oil", it will help to light our midnight lamp, and to remind us to write "like human beings" to other human beings. Mary has been asked to speak to a Literary Club on Archaeology in Alabama, and wants a bit of literature, book titles, etc. We are always delighted to hear that the fascinating story of archaeology is being given publicity - that is our FIRST need - and glad indeed to help.

THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Objectives of the Society: "To promote the study of archaeology of Alabama and of neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research and excavation; to discourage careless digging without records; to promote the conservation of important archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws proscribing such; to oppose the manufacture and sale of fraudulant antiquities; to encourage the establishment of local archaeological knowledge by means of publications and meetings; to develop a better understanding of the archaeology of the State by making systematic surface surveys and collections, and to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional.

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 ARCHAE-OLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members & their activities, also State, national & worldwide events of archaeological importance.

The coupon below may be used EITHER to AFPLY 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!

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