

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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FINAL PROGRESS REPORT - 1966 SUMMER DIG

Since the last Newsletter report of the summer excavations, work has continued on the Stutz Bluff Site (Lr 34), a shelter in the bluff of the narrow gorge of the Buttahatchee River. The original trench was excavated near the lower edge of the talus extending from the opening of the shelter. This trench was dug to an average depth of 4 feet with one 5-foot square as a deep test being carried down to a depth of 12 feet. No cultural material was encountered below the 4-foot level. The vertical profile of this trench showed 5 distinct natural zones which were designated by letters from top to bottom. Another 5-foot trench was then excavated perpendicular to the original trench and following the slope of the talus to the opening of the shelter.

The zones encountered in the original trench continued up the slope with the A and B zones being reduced to only a few inches in thickness at the mouth of the shelter, as compared to about 2 feet in the original trench. Zone C, a flood deposit of almost pure sand, discontinued in an abrupt break near the top of the talus. This placed Zone D, a red clay and sand stratum, within 2 inches of the shelter floor. A third trench was dug parallel to the second, leaving a 5-foot block in between, from which the zones could be established on the vertical profiles of each side. This isolated block was excavated under rigid control and all material was recovered by zones. The study of this material should give the best evidence as to the proper provenience of the Lively Complex.

At this time, it is not possible to make any definitive statement concerning the placement of the Lively Complex. It was well represented at the Stutz Bluff Site and was possibly the most dominant of the cultural material recovered. More time is needed in the laboratory to study the material and the excavation records in order to determine if the Lively Complex can be placed in its proper chronological position.

PEBBLE TOOL NEWS

(If stranger things have happened we haven't heard of them!)

John O. Burns, Vice President, Hightower Box & Tank Co., loaded the camping trailer and station wagon, not forgetting Johnny, Tommy, Betsy, Patty, and he and wife Alice set gaily forth for a summer camping vacation on cool and beautiful Lake George, N.Y. - where relatives could also be visited, and of course the Saratoga tracks where the nags run. The vacation "fun" began sooner than expected. In Virginia the rear end of the brand new station wagon ("so we won't have any car trouble on the trip!") went out. Arriving (at last!) at Lake George, a relative sat down with too much aplomb (pronounced a-plon!) in a folding camp chair, broke the chair - and a rib! Then John sprained an ankle and Alice broke a leg - one of those "perfectly wonderful" vacations!

Alice had carried some of our Alabama pebble tools to show Dr. William A. Ritchie at Albany, which became out of the question. She had planned to prospect local archaeology, but on crutches one can neither pick up nor carry. However, the left leg was

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broken - and what a "break" that break proved to be! She could drive dirt back roads looking for rocks on the shoulders, lean out of the car and pick up - but the 51 pounds of basaltic material she brought home looked at first glance to be just that - rocks.

But Alice, a "7-months archaeologist", has never found a potsherd and very few projectile points. She began her "meteoric career" by looking at a ton of pebble tools, went forth and found crude-tool sites, and has as a result perhaps the best "crude-tool eye" in America. Of the 51 pounds of "broken-up rocks", 19 pounds are excellent crude tools, 9 pounds not so good, 23 pounds doubtful and rubble - all large except 2 pounds. Typologically and technologically there are some Lively Complex traits, and there is NOT A SINGLE "FAMILIAR" ARTIFACT IN THE LOT! Nor did Alice see ANY of these crude tools in a local museum she visited. Nor have we seen them reported in the literature!!! Alice drew a map so the site can be located exactly, and will send the artifacts back up to Sigfus Olafson, President of the ESAF, so that New York too may be alerted to its "crude tools".

Ho-hum - 2,000 highway miles, 4 accidents, 4 children, a wife with a mania for "rocks"! John Burns obviously has enough troubles without involving himself in archaeology. But we hope it will be of some interest to him to know that we record his tribulated trip in detail because it is truly "one for the book" and a historic event in American archaeology - a NEW American archaeology discovering and understanding our "crude tools".

(The "plot thickens" in another direction too. Gregory Perino, Thomas Gilcrease Institute of American History and Art, Tulsa, Oklahoma, sent a sketch of a large, crude "fist pick" like that illustrated by Dan Josselyn on pages 62-63 of the Autumn 1965 Tennessee Archaeologist, the original having been sent down by Charles Faulkner from a University of Tennessee collection. They are finding this tool "in eastern Oklahoma and southeastern Kansas", thus importantly establishing it as a true tool type with wide dispersal. We become more and more amazed, bewildered, concerned that America's strange, crude, abundant lithic tools have received so little attention! If Alabama can only "start something" it will be a great contribution.)

LUCKY SEVENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE, 1966

WE, THE PEOPLE invented in America the great national fund drives for great causes - in which ASSOCIATIONS the individual can invest a little and gain the strength of millions. Running a national fund drive is an incredible task for those whom we employ to recruit armies of volunteers, organize publicity, etc. Yet the President of the National Tuberculosis Association once remarked that if some philanthropist offered the millions required for the year's work (free chest X-rays, etc.), he would turn the offer down - BECAUSE THE EDUCATIONAL VALUES OF FUND DRIVES ARE THEIR GREATEST VALUES. In weighing the value of our own little fund drive which we have had the honor of starting to save ancient history of the human race, after the dollars are counted (rather quickly!) we like to count the far greater educational values in behalf of an informed, responsible, interested public. Our summer dig is over for this year, but at \$3,168.50 received to date, our dig fund is just over half finished! We therefore repeat the first item in last month's Newsletter - YOUR HELP IS NEEDED - still!

Mrs. Jack McSpadden's generous annual donation set us to wondering what her archaeological interests were BFD (before fund drives) - classical Greek and Roman architecture and art, Egyptian pyramids and papyri? If it were not for the push, the education and the results necessary to keep a fund drive alive, would Mrs. McSpadden have become aware of Alabama's far older, unexplored, rapidly being destroyed archaeology? And if she had, could she have found a way to do anything about it? We like to think that our fund drive has added an important ingredient to the educational crusade which archaeology sorely needs, and are grateful to and proud of those few people who are smart and responsible enough to "read between" our stumbling lines and become interested.

Steve and Christine Wimberly's unfailing annual donations always remind us what a long "trail of tears" education is, yet how valuable even a glowing spark of it can be.

Steve was briefly our State Archaeologist - but without implementing funds, organization or even cooperative climate. But the interested amateur was welcome at Moundville, and to hours of education in museum and laboratory, and to precept and example teaching the high aims and ethics of science. The disciples of these sessions, and their disciples, have played prominent parts in bringing Alabama amateur archaeology to national attention - seeds nurtured by that greatest donation - education.

Kitty A. (Mrs. W. D.) Thomason provides a pleasant example of how the educational ball, once rolling, can "snowball". We noted with interest in our July issue that the Marshall County Chapter thought so highly of Mrs. Thomason that they made her an honorary member (it took us a quarter century to achieve that honor in our Birmingham Chapter!). Now, Larry Smith, President, writes: "Mrs. Thomason thinks enough of archaeology and the work of the Alabama Archaeological Society (which she joined) that she gave our Chapter a check to be forwarded to the Research Assn." Congratulations to Kitty on her honorary membership, and congratulations to us on a new member, a good member, SERIOUSLY interested in archaeology - we hope it will enrich her life as much as it has our own.

Dr. S. B. Stickney, in far Pittsburgh, sends a nice note along with his nice check explaining how it happened - and how all "believing" members can be EDUCATORS: "N. H. Holmes Jr., of Mobile, my oldest, best friend (also crustiest) should get credit for this contribution. Over 25 years ago he took me on a trip by double-ender to Battle Creek, and there we were awed by the mound. Then just a few years ago, N.H.H. got several dozens of sacks full of sherds from the mound, and classified them. They'd been collected and awaiting classification for a long time. He is thoroughly hooked...Now I'm catching it. Pebble tool news VERY exciting." These "crusty" old friends sound like delightful guys, and we have had mighty nice reports on Nick Holmes.

A. B. Hooper III, Insurance - and his annual donation reminds us of several ways archaeological EDUCATION can be served. A.B. found classic Lively Complex pebble tools on 13 sites 40 miles from the type sites - and loaned them for comparative study, and will REPORT in our Journal. Now he sends us, AND HIS SENATOR, the sad and urgent information that his pebble tool area is to be flooded by FOUR dams. The long and short of it is that a "dam lot" of education can be used in a lot of directions - & ALL can help!

Elizabeth W. Cline, Charter Donor and worker, reminds that our Society must operate as an educational institution, and of the complexity of the EDUCATIONAL MACHINERY functioning on a volunteer basis. Elizabeth used to publish our Newsletter - cutting the stencils, dickering around to get them run "for free", house a shambles for days as she and Bobby & Alice Ann assembled, stapled, folded, stapled again, stamped, addressed, mailed. "Behind the scenes" a lot of unsung work is done, by volunteers, in order that we may have a Society - lest we forget! Elizabeth is preparing a report on a very interesting site, with a very educational moral, we are glad to hear, for this is the best way to record our archaeological work enduringly.

Horace J. Holland - Mr. Educator himself! In fact, the best teacher of High School science we ever knew - and this included archaeology, a very rare thing. J. Henry McCary, President of our Research Association, who dickered so persistently to get us excavation rights at the Stanfield-Worley, met Horace up there in Colbert County and was so impressed that he took Jim Spotswood, of the BIRMINGHAM NEWS, up to see Horace and his veritable museum of natural history - entirely the work of Horace and his pupils. Jim gave Horace a fine write-up in the NEWS, April 9, 1961, closing with a quotation from Helen Keller when she was asked if there was anything worse than blindness: "Yes, it is worse to have eyes and then not see". Horace has taught many to see, and appreciate, this wonderful world which we so dangerously abuse. His latest educational donation is a properly collected, marked, mapped, dated set of our named Alabama projectile point types to the great Smithsonian Institution - where both science and a world of visitors can profit by Horace's devotion to the cause of EDUCATION.

Crawford Badham, ATTIC INSULATION CO. INC., and Harold S. Biggs - BIRMINGHAM to BYNUM - remind us of the spread of the nooks and crannies into which education, even the difficult business of archaeological education, can flow and find intelligent response. We have not had the pleasure of meeting either Mr. Badham or Mr. Biggs, but somehow we have developed a bond of common interest - an unusual bond. It would be interesting to know just how this came about in this intricate and unpredictable world - but somewhere along the line we all got hold of the same EDUCATIONAL force, the greatest force in the world, and the finest, and the most interesting.

Arthur B. Dunning, Vice President of the Birmingham Chapter, is a shining and refreshing example of what adult self-education, through a hobby, can amount to. Arthur's rock interests took a geological turn, in which he became astonishingly proficient. In fact, he was made Curator of Minerals at Birmingham Southern College, and is redrawing much of the petrological and mineral map of Alabama. As an unusual recipient of adult self-education, Arthur well knows how tremendously this can enrich life - often far more than the education we got, and forgot, at school. Annually he shares his interest in the rocks and minerals of which our fascinating earth is made by donating boxes of Alabama specimens to sell, at a very modest price, to raise funds for our archaeological explorations into man's past. Collection No. 3 is now selling, TWENTY-FIVE specimens neatly boxed, named, uses, county of origin - glauconite, source of potash, Monroe County; tripoli for abrasive, Lauderdale; ochre for paint, Lamar; vermiculite for insulation, Chambers; marcasite for sulphur ore, Walker; chalcopyrite, copper ore, Randolph. Is a single ONE of these familiar to you? Order from Dan Josselyn, 408 Broadway, Birmingham, Ala. 35209, \$1.25 plus 25¢ postage. And when ordering yours, why not one for a school so children can get a head start instead of a hind start? (And one cannot know archaeology without considerable knowledge of rocks!)

Fred L. Layton carries us way back to the first time we visited Kymulga Cave. We cut a sapling and slid down it through a hole in the roof, and slipped and slid and stumbled around, our lights feeble indeed in that vast domed "front room", and our exploration of the exciting corridors stingily limited. Fred has developed this fascinating cavern, making it convenient for public appreciation (and saving it from further destructive vandalism). In the process of exploring and developing, Fred discovered, and recognized, Indian burials. He called on professional Joe Benthall to expose the burials properly so the world could know the story they could tell - as well as view them. Fred writes: "They are Copena Puddled Clay burials...We found 7 more burials lately, with sand-tempered pottery associated" - which should make them even older than Copena! Fred continues: "Of course we will make no effort to uncover them without professional help. There are probably more of them. This is a good place to talk up archaeology - in showing the burials I always stress the fact that no person without training should attempt to uncover a burial. I keep an application blank handy and have gained us several new members." Fred got some mighty good archaeological education somewhere - and he is passing it along, appreciating what it has meant to him and can mean to others and to the preservation of ARCHAEOLOGY! Kymulga Cave has become a sort of "in situ" educational, and ETHICAL, institution! And what might he discover next? It appears to be an important archaeological cave, a very interesting one to visit year around (cool in summer, warm in winter) for both speleologists and archaeologists, and it is convenient to many - right on the main highway between Childersburg and Talladega, well marked, you can't miss it and can almost "drive in". (Oh yes, Fred says "there are those who want to dig the several barrels of Indian gold every cave has hid in it - ha, ha - and offer me half - but I'd feel bad spending the Indians' money after the way we treated them." Oh me, oh my - we do need EDUCATION, desperately!)

Of the many attempted definitions of education, we prefer "Education is that learning which is put to good use". Our good donors have thereby acquired some real archaeological EDUCATION. This is the precious ingredient which we must share with many to find the few who are educable, and our Newsletter does not reach far enough. Will our readers join us in our educational efforts, as so many of the above have done?

1966 SUMMER ANNUAL MEETING AND WORKSHOP

From the expressions, in person at the meeting and by subsequent letter, of those who attended this unusual opportunity to see and take part in our professionally supervised summer excavation in Lamar County, we are satisfied that all were most happy with the job being done as a result of our dig donations. A goodly number arrived sufficiently early on Saturday morning to visit the Stutz Bluff Site and participate in the work for a few hours, viewing the techniques and results. Then, prior to and during the dinner, some 60 took advantage of the chance to discuss archaeology with friends and new acquaintances. Of course, the highlight of the evening was the detailed report so interestingly presented by our Dave DeJarnette on developments there at the dig to that date, and everyone present was most thoroughly enlightened thereby. Regretfully, it was not possible for Dave to report that the antiquity of our Lively Complex pebble tools was definitely going to be established by the work done during the summer, but at least a lot more would be known about them on completion of the excavation and the later laboratory analysis. A number of members who did not make it to the dinner meeting, came by the dig site on Sunday to view the operations.

Among those in attendance were Society members from Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia & Florida; and a report from Cliff Mattox, a prominent member of the Florida State Society as well as ours, covering archaeological work being done in that State, was most enjoyed by everyone. Those of you who did not make the trip can be assured that you missed a most pleasant and informative occasion with even the weather cooperating.

PROJECT "ARCHY"

The "Archy" project of the Deep South Girl Scout Council, Mobile, Ala., participated in the summer dig during July 23 to August 5, marking the sixth consecutive year of working with our State Society, the Research Association and the University of Alabama Excavation Program. The girls are selected from the Southeast region, and this year were from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi & Arkansas. All of the girls are experienced "primitive" campers and their camp near the Stutz Bluff Site on the Buttahatchee River offered an excellent opportunity to test their skill in camp lore.

The girls were used in the excavation of the Stutz Bluff Site, and with some who had previously worked on the Sand Mountain digs, it did not take long to take full advantage of the additional "man"-power. They took part in every phase of the operation including the digging, shaker table operation, picking table, sorting, washing and even the uninteresting and fatiguing job of back-filling. They were a well disciplined, hard-working crew and made a worthwhile contribution to the program. Our thanks and appreciation are expressed to the girls, whose names and hometowns are listed below, and most of all to their leaders, Mrs. R. B. Andridge of Mobile, and Mrs. Ruby L. Cobb of Theodore, Ala., for their help:

Linda Burgbacher, Metairie, La.
Jane Devith, Mobile, Ala.
Laura Gallagher, Jackson, Miss.
Diane Hatton, Jasper, Ala.
Susan Keogh, Marianna, Ark.
Donna Loyd, Mobile, Ala.
Augusta Norden, Mobile, Ala.
Suzanne Schwartz, Mobile, Ala.
Nancy Sloan, Mobile, Ala.
Kathy Weise, Hazlehurst, Miss.

Meg Dahlberg, Chickasaw, Ala.
Valerie Fike, Monroe, Ala.
Elaine Harmon, Columbus, Miss.
Nancy Hollady, Mobile, Ala.
Rosalind Lauchley, Jackson, Miss.
Bridget May, Baton Rouge, La.
Amy Sue Phillips, Mobile, Ala.
Kathleen Shirley, New Orleans, La.
Nan Smith, Tuscumbia, Ala.
Julie Wood, Columbus, Miss.

Susan Worley, Fort Smith, Ark.

REVIEW

SASKATCHEWAN ARCHAEOLOGY Newsletter, Anthony J. Ranere, Editor, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina, \$2.00 a year. This young Newsletter has matured beautifully,

as a few excerpts from the June '66 issue will suggest. Members of the Society are invited to volunteer for the "first undertaking in this province being done entirely by amateurs", under supervision of course. This is a week-end dig - wonder if we could guarantee 8 or 10 volunteers for such an undertaking? The delightful readability of this publication can be gathered from: "Now that summer has arrived and the archaeologists have crawled out of their museums, classrooms, basements and other hibernation spots, field work in the province is in full swing" - but alas that archaeologists have to do about everything else! "The...University of Saskatchewan...is continuing the survey of the glacial beaches in the Hudson Bay region which was initiated last year" - we are greatly in need of careful studies in this direction. "Jerry Iverson and Harold Assmus...discovered a burial partially exposed" - and reported it to the Museum! The professionals responded immediately! - "and began excavation after receiving permission to do so by the RCMP" - it is against the law for ANYBODY, even a professional, "to tamper with any burial, historic or prehistoric, until permission has been granted" officially! Compared to that, Alabama is all archaeology - prehistoric! In a report on the Northwest Anthropological Conference we note with big ears: "The Bonnicksen-Bryan paper was especially interesting in that it concerned a tool assemblage (cobble and pebble tools) which has been ignored in Saskatchewan...and more or less ignored in the entire Northwest. Considerable work, however, is being done elsewhere on these potentially very early assemblages". In more ways than one Drs. R. Bonnicksen and A. L. Bryan, University of Alberta, seem to be on their toes - for both ordered our Live-ly, Long, Josselyn pebble tool publication some time ago (got yours yet?). President John V. Hodges, reelected, of the SAS, gives members a firm piece of his mind, they must "earn a place of trust and respect with the professional" but that is "only a part of the problem. We have our share in educating the public and those in high places." Bravo!!! A paper by Dr. Vernon Leslie, Director of the Pennsylvania Institute of Anthropology, reprinted by permission, gives, not amateurs this time, but AMATEUR SOCIETIES a raking up one side and down the other for what they are NOT doing about member education and ethics. He has a point indeed, and maybe we should ask permission too! The SAS exchanges Newsletters and Bulletins with 29 other Societies! And Gil Watson of the Provincial Museum in Regina will mail them to members on request! Golly, wish we had the long-suffering manpower to do that! But then the publications we recommend are worth having on your own shelves for reference, not just one reading, and they need financial support - for bigger and better publications. The Treasurer's Report in this case gives the yearly net income as \$1.13 - that, ladies & gentlemen, is archaeology - or what is wrong with archaeology. We never found but one "grooved maul" in Alabama, and it just a grooved pebble, so we sort of slid over this paper to a fascinating paper by A. I. Bereskin on Cree Indian Place Names. For example: "MISSAW is 'big' in Cree and CEE PEE is 'river', hence MISSAW CEE PEE or 'Mississippi', the 'big river', is the apt name for this mighty river." Apparently our "father of waters" is in error, as things so often are when they are "well known". Stoutenburgh's DICTIONARY OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN does not list the word, nor do we find it translated in Swanton's INDIANS OF THE SOUTHEASTERN U.S. - and Swanton's INDIAN TRIBES OF NORTH AMERICA is loaned out, as books so often are when you need them. Well, live and learn, but you have to read a lot to learn anything much - so now and then we like to apprise you of "other good Newsletters" - ouch!

THE U-L-T-I-M-A-T-E ABSURDITY

De Soto, gold-wealthy after the rape of Peru with Pizzaro but still gold-crazy, spent over 3 years and his life combing our southeast for gold - armed with all the sad and vicious methods of extortion learned in blood-bathed Mexico and Peru - and found nary a nugget of the yellow metal which has a hydrophobic effect on men. Yet in our archaeological wanderings about every third local yokel tells us fabulous tales of Indian gold - note Fred Layton's experience in this issue. We thought this was "the most", but now "The Margaret" sends a clipping from a Georgia newspaper announcing that this yokel yodeling has been put in a book - seriously! Margaret's letter says: "This fellow wanted to use one of my petroglyph photos to illustrate that it was an ancient

treasure map...wish I could have taped the phone conversation...his diatribe against archaeologists - 'just SAY they are digging for bones'...he is convinced that Temple Mound at Etowah is hollow and contains billions in solid gold". Aw, Margaret, you are kidding! But no, according to the news item, this goof says petroglyphs with "arrows and snakes point in the direction of buried silver and gold" and "turkey feet carved on a rock usually means treasure is close by" - he apparently uses ESP, a crystal ball, scapula divination and tea leaves! But according to the clipping he also "uses a metaloscope in his own searches which are primarily for gold and silver...the scope detects metal as far as 25 feet down". With some success, of course - and here we have a truly delectable absurdity - but at last a true treasure story. "...his headphones buzzed... he dug 18 inches and found a 2-quart iron pot 200 years old." At this juncture he obviously switched from headphones back to crystal ball: "The pot HAD contained gold dust but its bottom had rusted out and the dust had seeped into the river." Believe this bathos or not, Mr. Ripley! Margaret, are there no psychiatrists in Georgia?

Now, as this got incredibly worse and worse, pathetica and pathetica, we just knew it couldn't be surpassed by man, moron or monkey. No? According to the news clipping, "THE STATE THINKS SO MUCH OF THE BOOK THAT IT HAS BOUGHT COPIES FOR ALL ITS WELCOME STATIONS, GIVING TOURISTS A DAYBREAK START IF THEY WANT TO LOOK FOR GOLD, SILVER..."!!! We've often seen archaeology prostituted "for tourist trade", but nothing has prepared us for this - the great State of Georgia inviting tourists to despoil her archaeological TREASURES OF KNOWLEDGE in fool-futile digging of Indian sites! Now we have heard everything!!!!

We are having copies made of the above clipping and Margaret's letter, and shall do what we can about this. In the meantime, advice to tourists: He proved his treasure - with a pot that isn't good for you know what! Poor fellow! Poor paper for not excoriating this! Poor, poor Georgia Tourist Bureau! And poor, poor, poor archaeology! This whips us!

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at University of Alabama Extension Center. At the September meeting, David L. DeJarnette will discuss his excavation of a Yucatan depository cave performed in the Spring of 1966.

Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Huntsville Public Library. At a special call meeting held June 25, Dr. Vernon Leslie, prominent Pennsylvania and Eastern archaeologist, talked on: "Pebble Tools in Alabama, and the Archaic Period". Dr. Leslie was visiting Chapter member Bob Tucker, and along with Tom Cornell, they made several field trips to Paleo & Archaic sites in Madison County. At the July meeting, 1st Vice President Bill Millen presided over a program featuring artifact displays, books & bibliographies, cataloguing materials and archaeological ethics.

Marshall County Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Sand Mountain Hotel, Albertville. At the July meeting, A. B. Hooper III discussed a theory on evolution of point types. The next regular meeting will be held October 11.

Mauvilla Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Mobile Public Library. The next regular meeting will be held September 19.

Montgomery Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. At the August meeting, plans for an exhibit at the South Alabama State Fair were discussed; President Dave Chase spoke on forthcoming expedition to Iran and specific purpose of project; and preliminary discussions were held on plans for the State Society Annual Winter Meeting to be held in Montgomery in early December.

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Wesleyan Hall, Room W-3, Florence State College. At the July meeting, Al Beinlich showed the TVA film SHELL MOUND ARCHAEOLOGY OF PICKWICK BASIN, and he & Mrs. Beinlich reported on their western trip to Carlsbad Cavern, a community Fire Hole, the Petrified Forest, the Painted Desert, adobe huts near Coolidge, Arizona, and Gilchrist Museum at Tulsa, Okla.

Noccalula Chapter meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. At the August meeting Randy Gray, Birmingham Chapter, spoke on "Geological Formations in Alabama", pointing out that Etowah County, one of the more complex areas, had one of the largest varieties of rock formations; also, he gave a brief description of the types of fossils found in each period of geological time. At the September meeting, D. C. Smith will discuss the Woodland Era, showing slides on materials found in Tennessee.

Selma Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Meadowview Christian Church. John Cottier spoke on "The Yucatan Peninsula" at the July meeting, showing slides of Yucatan ruins, artifacts, architecture, tombs and ceramic remains. He also showed slides of Ladell Site, including trenches with burials and artifacts & pottery. New Chapter Secretary is H. Lee Allen, 403 Sherwood Drive, Selma, Ala. 36701

Tuscaloosa Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month in Ten Hoor Hall, University of Alabama. The first fall meeting will be held in September.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR AUGUST: (Our activities still attracting nice people!)

Miss Elizabeth A. Beall, 3828 Arundel Drive, Birmingham, Ala. 35213

Wayne Deupree, P O Box 378, Memphis, Tenn. 38101

Ann S. Grainger, 3207 Overhill St. N.W., Huntsville, Ala. 35810

Edd Moddy, P O Box 193, Park City, Kentucky 42160

Floyd W. Smith, Route 4, Oneonta, Ala. 35121

Dr. Stonewall Stickney, 1427 Denniston Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219 (Sustaining)

William Thomaston, P O Box 366, Shawmut, Ala. 36876

Mrs. Carl S. Wood, P O Box 1232, High Point, N.C. 27261

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

Miss Eloise Clark, 27 Parkview Drive, Tuscaloosa, Ala. 35401

E. F. Hiserodt, 811 Sherman St. S.E., Decatur, Ala. 35601

Jan S. Swart, RD 1, Queen Anne Road, Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010

BAD ADDRESS:

Kyle Hardin - formerly P O Box 147, Gardendale, Ala. 35071

1966 WINTER ANNUAL MEETING: At the Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with the Summer Workshop in late July, the usual December meeting was discussed, and it now appears that the date will be Sunday, December 4, 1966, and the place will be the Museum of Fine Arts in Montgomery, Ala. Arrangements for the speaker at the meeting are now being made, and full details will be announced later; this advance notice being given so all of you can start reserving the date for this occasion.

ESAF BULLETIN NO. 25, which we received last month, now represents our federation of 19 States and 2 Canadian Provinces! We could be a real force in archaeology - but we contribute only a financial pittance to our joint enterprise! Why not MORE?

In this issue we were particularly struck by the abstract of Dr. James E. Fitting's paper at the meeting - even Michigan, with its archaeological facilities and leadership, has discovered its Paleo and Archaic only in the last decade! How can we possibly assume that we have made all major discoveries? Our own preferred assumption is that we are in a "neo-Hrdlicka" era, thinking we know more than we do, and in danger of closing the door of exploration and inquiry too soon.

Perhaps Dr. Leonard Griffin's paper, abstracted, on the encouraging "changing role" of amateurs suggests an answer. We have long been noted as scouts, and as not being fettered by orthodoxies. If we'll report everything we find, we may find that "new era" - which our pebble tools may be kicking off to a good start!

ALABAMA'S SECRET: "I confirmed my guess that - it's the people that make Alabama archaeology tick...the professionals on their side and working with them...Dave DeJarnette

gave us grand attention", Francis Smith wrote from Atlanta after his visit to our Summer workshop. Yes, think what we have accomplished since Dave and the University of Alabama joined us cooperatively! Again we wish to express our gratitude - and we must "keep our noses clean" so as not to endanger this professional and academic relationship without which WE CANNOT BE EFFECTIVE!

CHUNKY STONES?: What did early man use to kill small game before the invention of projectile points? What would you do if suddenly thrust into a survival situation without weapons of any kind? Recently, while visiting near Springville in St. Clair Co., Alabama, Randy Gray met Ed Rickles, former professional baseball pitcher, who could survive very well. Mr. Rickles, who passed the age of 60 some time ago, hunts skunks, fox, bobcats, rabbits, squirrels and other small game with rocks. No sling - he throws them! He has had mounted a fox and bobcat, victims of his throwing arm. He demonstrated his throwing ability by whizzing a few rocks at a fence post so accurately that Randy reports he was glad they had shaken hands in a friendly fashion before witnessing the demonstration.

Ed Boss, dedicated editor of the PIA Newsletter, reminds that too few amateurs have to do too much of the amateur work. Ed, with Evelyn and Ann, did manage a brief escape on a camping trip to lovely West Virginia. They were awed by the NSF radio-telescope at Green Bank. And Ed, "a railroad buff", bumbled at length about the Cass Scenic Railroad - "steam is almost a thing of the past, but Shay (geared) locomotives are virtually extinct except in the far northwest." However, Ed climaxed these delights with "and best of all: no archaeology!"

"NEW ROADS TO YESTERDAY", the book favorably reviewed on Page 10 of our July Newsletter, and priced at \$12.50, we are now glad to announce can be purchased by members of our State Society at a 20% discount, or for \$10.00. Anyone interested in making such a purchase may obtain the book from Basic Books Inc., 404 Park Ave. S., New York, N.Y. 10016, indicating in their order that they are a State Society member; or if you would like to have a copy of a circular more completely describing the contents of the book and including an order form, request a copy from Ye Editor, Britt Thompson.

Marjorie Gay, visiting her mother in Andover, Mass., sends a striking postcard with a diorama of a Pennacook Indian village from the Museum of the R. S. Peabody Foundation, and says: "thought I was home - good exhibits of Moundville and Etowah".

Margaret Smith "enjoyed meeting so many nice folks at the Summer Workshop. We had a long talk with the Gays of Standing Rock and she showed us some of her white quartz items...we think are typical of the Old Quartz industry here in Ga." Margaret reports no luck in interesting the Great Southwest Atlanta Corporation in the archaeological possibilities (and obligations!) of "their 3600-acre industrial development on the Chattahoochee River." In such matters, some countries are way out ahead of our U.S.!

Sigfus Olafson, 56 years ago, watched the Chippewa band on the U.S. side of Lake of Woods, Minnesota, conduct 2 ceremonial pow-wows, "each lasting continuously, for 3 days and 3 nights, the beat of the tom-tom never stopping". Now ancient "Ka-Ka-Gee-sick...claims to be 122 years old...I looked on him as an old man in 1910...It has been learned that he signed a land cession treaty with the U.S. as a representative of the Lake of the Woods Chippewa band, at Red Lake, Minn., in 1878".

RESISTUM AD FOOLISHUM, to coin a fine (?) bit of Latin (?) for a certain brand of mind (?) it seems we always have with us. Our good Mentone member and correspondent, Jim Whitehead, likes to collect "very old newspapers", and sends us a hilarious quote from an editorial in FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER, Dec. 2, 1871: "The search after the sources of the Nile has cost more valuable lives and caused more suffering than the discovery would be worth, even were it ever made. It has become one of those follies of science similar to the perpetual motion and squaring the circle." Moon shots would doubtless have shook Frank Leslie's teeth out - and pebble tools in Ala-

bama his lights and liver, we bet. (A fine bit of literary archaeology, Jim, reminding us that where man went can point a moral on where he is going - that is, where we hope he is going!)

"PENNSYLVANIA DIGS: Researchers from Pennsylvania State University are digging this summer in Sheep Rock Shelter, one of the key prehistoric sites in the Eastern United States. They hope to find new traces of the Paleo-Indian in Central Pennsylvania. Dr. Joseph W. Michels is in charge of the dig. This is the first local dig after five years of digging in the valleys of Mexico." This item was taken from the recently published special edition of THE INTERAMERICAN, N/L of the Instituto Interamericano.

IS THERE A CURE FOR ARTIFACTITIS? Before we knew anything about archaeology, we were quick to "lecture" on it. We went armed and armored, of course, with artifacts - the "ooh" and the "aah" varieties. Under their strange hypnosis, the audiences would tolerate any sort of "lecture".

After reaching the inevitable point of "artifact saturation", they finally became to us what they actually are - troublesome things to collect, wash, mark, study, draw, photograph, report - but unfortunately a necessary incumbering baggage of archaeology. "Heavens, ANOTHER load of artifacts", became our maturing attitude. Then it dawned upon us suddenly that in showing "museum pieces" to audiences we were creating the wrong impression - the impression that ARTIFACTS are ARCHAEOLOGY! And that it was both smart and nice to have some of this "archaeology" to show. "How can I get some of these?" was about the net audience result.

Thus inadvertently do we not, in stressing ARTIFACTS, often foster the prevalent, highly infectious and disastrous disease of "artifactitis"? We have known "prominent" amateurs who never have recovered - their glass showcases are their pride, joy and life, almost - impaled upon an artifact!

In later "modest talks" to try to repair the damage our "learned lectures" had done in this matter, we quit using artifacts and substituted a small model of a step-cut excavation made of plywood and "painted" with dirt mixed with glue - to show stratification, etc. With trowel and brush much in evidence, we took our audiences down through successive archaeological strata, house floors, refuse pits, burials (with miniature plastic skeletons), etc. A few artifacts glued in place added some reality. We did not leave an impression that artifacts ARE archaeology - we stressed the FACTS we excavated. Nor did we leave the impression that one simply "digs" archaeology - and the complexity of EXCAVATION did not encourage listeners to try it, but rather impressed them with the destruction improperly supervised digging produces!

Our little model excavation wasn't much. We got to wondering if some smart and ambitious Chapter would undertake to make a really good plywood model excavation, with all the educational trimmings, in sections for portability - and for all of us to borrow for talks and TV. It could be highly educational, and interesting, and perhaps a partial antidote for that dread "ARTIFACTITIS" which our too singleminded stress on artifacts seems to promote. Our own little model proved quite a success, and evokes "oohs" and "aahs" too, and is still often borrowed.

BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY: Back in our June issue, we published a small list of books and publications on this subject on the chance that some of our members might find it of interest. No inquiries resulted, but from the same source as well as one other, we now have a fairly complete list of the available literature on the subject which we hope to publish one day soon. If anyone wants the information immediately, write the Editor, and a copy of the lists will be sent along.

EDUCATIONAL PAGE: This month our Educational Page was specially prepared, at the request of our State Society Board of Directors, to perhaps more clearly than at any time previously, set forth the practices and limitations recommended for our membership. We trust this will be carefully studied, discussed in Chapter meetings, and used as a firm basis for future individual and group activity.

EDUCATIONAL PAGE

ARCHAEOLOGY IS A SCIENCE

A few years ago archaeology was not a true science. Those who engaged in it were interested only in collecting attractive "ancient artifacts", with no real interest in the historic importance of such artifacts. In the Old World, rape after rape was conducted on important archaeological sites merely for the purpose of collecting "museum pieces". New World archaeology has also suffered from this avarice. We all admire "museum pieces" but we now recognize that a "museum piece" without accompanying data as to its cultural placement, and placement in the overall time picture of history, is really of little significance. Today all persons having a sincere interest in archaeology recognize that the prime purpose of archaeological science is to reconstruct history. Its purpose is to determine what people did WHEN, HOW and WHERE. Careful investigation of the remaining archaeological sites is a MUST if scientific archaeology is to be pursued. Following are listed the basic guides for conducting scientific archaeology:

1. Study an AREA. (This will usually be a segment of a river or creek valley and associated terraces and hills.)
2. Locate the archaeological sites in the AREA.
3. Make surface collections from each of the sites. Collect not only the "perfect" arrowheads and "decorated" pottery sherds, but also pick up BROKEN pieces of flint, fractured arrowheads, chipped pebbles, stone flakes and chips, and all pottery sherds, whether plain or decorated. Ideally - but this is usually impossible - we should collect ALL material from the surface of a site.
4. Catalogue all the material collected, putting an identifying mark (such as India ink identification) on each piece so it is identified permanently as having come from a specific, mapped location. Without this identifying mark, the piece is useless for the purposes of scientific archaeology because "association of artifacts" is one of the most important clues to reconstructing history, the prime aim of scientific archaeology.
5. Describe the findings contained in each surface collection. Consult publications on the archaeology of the region to fit the description into the known artifact types of the region. If "new" artifact types are represented, describe them in detail so that communication to other persons working in archaeology can be established. Communication between all persons working in archaeology is the only way the whole historic picture can be assembled.
6. Publish the descriptions of the findings contained in these surface collections (with profuse illustrations, if possible) so that workers in other areas can compare their data with findings from your sites.

If conscientious surface collections are made and identities preserved by proper cataloguing as outlined above, it rarely will be necessary to excavate any of the archaeological sites found. If excavation - "digging" - of a site appears necessary to confirm the picture suggested by a study of

the surface collections, such excavation should be conducted ONLY by those fully qualified to excavate.

Who are qualified? Those who earn their livelihood in this manner. Proper excavation of an archaeological site is to be reserved only to a few specialists, just as removal of an appendix or surgical fusion of a weak vertebral column is to be performed only by a person fully trained in surgery. Archaeology, if it is to maintain its identification as a science, must conduct itself within scientific bounds.

Conscientious surface collecting, accompanied by proper cataloguing to assure preservation of the original location of the findings, is a scientific endeavor and offers to the novice and amateur an opportunity rarely presented in other fields of science: an opportunity to be a part of "pure science". However, when the novice or amateur in archaeology engages in excavating, a pall hovers over his work and suspicions arise in scientific circles.

Our statewide Archaeological Society in Alabama has a GOOD reputation. It has the respect of many scientific educational institutions. Let's keep it that way! We should concentrate on programming and conducting scientific SURFACE surveys.

Each chapter of our Society has great opportunities to conduct scientific surveys within a few miles of its meeting place. Let us concentrate on these opportunities. Let us NOT prostitute our integrity by conducting excavations unless they are supervised by scientific institutions. If a Society member feels that a site warrants excavation to fill out or confirm the picture suggested by surface finds, he should contact professional archaeologists in the State.

With respect to "salvage archaeology", there are 2 definitions:

- (a) "Let's get it before someone else does."
- (b) It is being destroyed and professional archaeologists are not available so we must recover what we can.

Regarding (a) above, its absurdity speaks for itself. As to "b" above, however, there are times when the novice or amateur can be an aid to science by following behind the bulldozer, recovering artifacts and mapping findings.

Whatever our Society represents, it should first represent, and speak out for, a scientific approach to archaeology.

Steve B. Wimberly

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 prescribing such; to oppose the manufacture and sale of fraudulent 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 ARCHAEOLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members and their activities, also State, national and worldwide events of archaeological importance.

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