Alabama Archaeological Society

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA P.O. BOX 6126, UNIVERSITY, ALA. 35486

INGHAM ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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STONES & BONES
NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

COME - YOU NEVER FORGET AN ANNUAL MEETING - COME Huntsville Utilities Building Auditorium 112 Gallatin St. S.W. SATURDAY DECEMBER 7th

ANNUAL MEETINGS are memorable occasions. All of a sudden: Presto, we really are a STATE SOCIETY - not merely a name. Here are your friends, your acquaintances and people you've only read about - everybody with a "name plate" prominently displayed. And everybody with a mutual interest. You grin and gabble and nibble - refreshments.

All this and rocks too - DIS-plays! And in NORTH Alabama this time - where Paleo fluted is "by the ton" and they won't have far to truck it. You'll likely see more fluted points than many an archaeologist sees in a lifetime!

And SPEAKERS - we have the best slate ever - in wide variety and FROM 3 STATES. They sound like a NATIONAL ANNUAL rather than "just Alabama". Here's a golden opportunity for you to let some information and education "rub off on you".

And HOSTS - the HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER - one of our largest and most active. And fine folks! And they have really gone all out to make you COME - and WEL-COME. They have actually arranged for policing to safeguard your displays, as well as ample table space - it is important that all Chapters bring artifacts representative of their area. Archaeological hospitality - you can't beat it!

On the yellow sheet in the back of this Newsletter will be found the complete program for the meeting, on one side, and on the other side, a city map of Huntsville showing the locations of the meeting place, Hotel and parking spaces. Tear out the yellow sheet and bring it along with you, so you'll know what to expect, also where and when.

Now for the most important item - YOUR presence. All of this preparation, all the fun and friendship and education and displays - they will be nothing to you unless YOU are there. And it is YOU and YOU and YOU who will in large part make it a great occasion for others - that infectious "crowd psychology".

And by all means DON'T FORGET that certain REAL MONEY MATTERS FOR ARCHAEOLOGY are to be discussed this year. If we, ALL OF US, take this opportunity by the horns and wrestle it to a conclusion, this meeting will be HISTORIC FOR ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY!!!! But YOU are needed - as never before - if this is to succeed. If you want REAL ARCHAEOLOGY in Alabama, here's your chance! SEE YOU AT THE ANNUAL MEETING!!!!

??? NUMBER ONE (1) PROBLEM OF AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY ???

Ruth D. Simpson, after inviting us to a "major symposium" on the subject, adds: "Also, possibly casts of the artifacts may be available prior to the meeting, so if you re-

ceive them from Dr. Leakey or his technician, Judy Goodall of London, you will understand why." Yes indeed, and let us further explore the "why" of all this. Leon J. Salter had sent us a Xerox from SCIENCE, 5/31/68, about the Simpson-Leakey excavation in the Mojave Desert. It is in an alluvial fan deposited by a stream, which in the dry, dry Mojave is necessarily old - geologists and geomorphologists judge it over 40,000, not over 120,000, and probably between 50,000 and 80,000 years old. But their artifacts from this site, which Leakey, Simpson and the geological adviser Thomas Clements support quite adequately, it seems to us, have been contested.

Now, Dr. Leakey has for many years been a master at making stone artifacts of all kinds - his removal of the end of a large flint module by striking a side projection is amazing. And of course he has excavated about every type of artifact made by man and half-man for the past 2,000,000 years. He is familiar with many flint-working TECHNOLOGIES. Here in America we had just about concluded that we had one technology - that of making thin bifaces, worked all over and shaped in outline. Anything else was abortive or the like - so we were personally taught, and so we operated for most of our own personal surface-collecting life. We have personally learned to admit it, in good grace and great regret. But is that yet common American practice? And have those who never recognized a simple or crude TECHNOLOGY a leg to stand on in contesting Leakey? Personally, we doubt it seriously.

Our personal experience, based on 5 years of studying and showing our Lively Complex pebble tools and others even more crude, is that the American archaeological eye (even in Ph.D. context) needs a lot of training in SEEING other than our thin biface and well-shaped artifacts. Dr. Wormington gracefully admitted that she was no authority on pebble tools when we first offered to send some - and waited until she could view them in company with European experts, Bordes and Vertes. Though, of course, she too recognized them as artifacts immediately.

It will indeed be a service if Simpson and Leakey can attract a large attendance to a symposium, and EXPLAIN a crude technology. And what a lovely idea to distribute plaster casts! We wish we could do that - for those who have tried to sweep pebble tools under the rug (where the lumps have been more obvious than ever). The American EYE must be retrained, as our 5 years of pebble tool experience make abundantly plain. Lacking the stuff to afford the casts, we can highly recommend the Lively-Long-Josselyn publication on pebble tools. With 300 illustrations of pebble tools, in this respect it is the best in the world as far as we know. And the 20,000 words, though mimeographed, include an UNDERSTANDABLE discussion of this 3-dimensional technology. It will help to retrain both eye and the "made-up" mind. Archaeology "enjoying" the status that it does, this had to be privately printed, at \$3.00 - but profits go back into pebble tool research. Address Dan Josselyn, 408 Broadway, B'ham, Ala. 35209.

THE ALABAMA STORY - AN ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Despite the "official closing" of our 1968 annual fund drive, which offers a good excuse to quit donating, the vitality of its momentum continues - and with the usual interesting results. When we try to total all the people who would NOT have been interested, and all the things which would NOT have happened, IF we had not had this annual fund drive - well, we are astonished, and rewarded. Read on:

THE RUCKER & MARGARET M. AGEE CHARITABLE TRUST, for example, marks another high point in the history of our fund drive. The Rucker Agecs are widely known for their broad civic interests and good works, and their acute concern over the preservation of Alabama history. For them to extend this concern to Alabama's "pre-history", as unwritten archaeological history is called, is a notable event. How? Why? (Important items of archaeological EDUCATION of the public.) It seems that Mr. Agee, one of the prime movers in the Alabama Historical Society, introduced our Dave DeJarnette at the Society annual meeting this year (at Moundville). Mr. Agee called our Jim McCary to

fill out his information on Dave - and of course got a glowing account about how Dave's cooperation has been the indispensable factor of implementation for our fund drive and big amateur ambitions. To ice the cake of possibilities, Mr. Agee's letter to Jim, along with the fine check, included: "David DeJarnette did a good job in his address ... There must have been 500 people present." HISTORICAL interests in Alabama have been more active and effective than PRE-HISTORICAL. We are proud, and grateful, to have caught the attention of the Agees - and hope this may lead to some coalition of interests between historical and archaeological forces.

Mr. & Mrs. (Elizabeth) David L. DeJarnette, as if they had not contributed enough to Alabama archaeology in a host of ways, also send their annual donation "to the very worthy cause" - as Elizabeth's nice note says. This carries us back to our visit to our test trench of our very first fund-supported excavation - the now-famous Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter. Elizabeth was a charming hostess - it was "open house" and a gala occasion. Dave had sent us a telegram: "Dalton points at lowest level below sterile layer". With a grapefruit knife we helped to gather some of the carbon which brought the radiocarbon age back from the University of Michigan - 9,640 years, oldest in the southeast! Thrills and chills! It was then that the full realization came home to us: WHAT can amateur archaeology accomplish without PROFESSIONAL CCOPERATION? Our thanks indeed - and of course our thoughts fly ahead to the possibilities of additional PROFESSIONALS - like Arkansas.

THE PASTFINDERS, Mrs. J. D. Carmichael, Treasurer, in their second year send their second donation. And we have much other proof that they are an active, working-at-it group, making other contributions. Notably, members are publishing, and helping Roger Nance and his University of Alabama students in their exploration of a large site. An auxiliary of the Birmingham Chapter, THE PASTFINDERS was the inspiration of Madge Hahn for the ladies - who have "home work" of evenings but are more free to meet at earlier hours. It has proved to be a promising innovation - other Chapters in need of added zip please note. We think it also promising that Madge is now the first of the fair sex to be elected President of the Birmingham Chapter - an event which made the BIRM-INGHAM NEWS (via Elizabeth Cline). Thanks, dear ladies.

Mrs. Houston Glover, who began donating 3 years ago though then a non-member, is something of an "event" in Alabama's civic contributions. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Council on the Arts, she has been instrumental in securing a grant from the National Foundation on the Arts for a "traveling exhibit". This exhibit is being prepared by Tom DeJarnette, under the supervision of Dr. Herbert Beschung, and of course our Dave DeJarnette (at the Museum of Natural History, University of Alabama). Mrs. Glover hopes that: "this elaborate exhibit will serve to fill a very much needed educational gap between the oriented archaeologist and the uninformed but fascinated outsiders." Amen - that gap has been an archaeological "tragedy of errors" leading to both lack of support and uncountable and irretrievable destruction. "Everybody an archaeologist", in spirit, should have been the major goal from the beginning - instead of "everybody a collector": And every farmer, builder, etc., a destroyer unintentionally. Mrs. Glover writes that she is "quite fascinated" by what we have accomplished - and we can surely return the compliment, along with our thanks.

Well! Aren't "our people" interesting? You know, a Society is "just people" - individuals. One of the best things about our fund drive has been the fact that we are often able to "dig" a bit of the biography of donors - and "make them acquainted" to all. Knowing each other is probably the most important factor in knitting our individual threads into the fabric of a mutual Society. And for us who "handle the details" of the fund drive, it has indeed been a pleasure to meet all the nice people who have entered our lives by this route over the years. (A supplement to our list of donors for 1968 which appeared in the November STONES & BONES will be published in our issue for January 1969 when all donations are in, so there is still time to make the list if you are one of the few who have been "putting it off".)

AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE FUTURE

"FOUR MORE ARCHAEOLOGISTS (that makes seven -- 7 -- seven. Everyone can have a friend-ly neighborhood archaeologist)...go and meet the one nearest you, or if you can't manage that, at least write him, or her, a letter of welcome...Maybe you thought that with 7 archaeologists, around the State, you now could sit back and let them do the work - no, no, No. You are now going to be busier than ever! Now there is somebody close by to bug you about showing him or her sites, or about helping with a week-end test excavation, or about photographing a collection, or writing up a short report. Now you can make even more contributions than before...members...are NEEDED."

Hail Columbia, that is the way the ARKANSAS NEWSLETTER is reading now - the big, the impossible, the DREAM COME TRUE. Exactly what every serious amateur would give all but his trowel arm to get in his own State. Exactly what would make all of our interests, desires, discoveries and efforts EFFECTIVE. Man alive!

JOIN - for goodness sake - the ARKANSAS SOCIETY. Their Newsletter, always delightful reading, is now going to be A HANDBOOK OF PROFESSIONAL-AMATEUR COOPERATION - certainly the "amateur archaeology of the future". This is the FIRST of its kind, and doubtless the most progressive step which could be made in American archaeology today. And it is a handbook concerning what WE, and all States, MUST ALSO GET - State support of archaeology. We are going to need the blazed trail - the ARKANSAS HANDBOOK! (We might even revive an old slogan & say "Join or Die" - for amateur archaeology is ailing.)

Send your \$4.00 to Hester A. Davis, Secretary (and State Archaeologist), Arkansas Archaeological Society, University Museum, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. (Let's bowl them over with 100 new SERIOUS amateur members!) (Or 99 more - we HAVE JOINED ourselves.)

SCRAPERS?

Those unhandy little, sometimes itsy-bitsy, "thumbnail" gadgets - thumb-and-finger gadgets which would hardly seem to scratch an itch. It has been suggested that such things in Western Europe might have been used for striking fire, because of association in Magdalenian deposits with iron pyrites (though we have never been able to strike a spark with such soft material). O. T. Mason (THE ORIGINS OF INVENTIONS, 1895) said the Eskimo "leather-worker is constantly touching up his scraper edge with the chipper (of bone) and in time he wears it out to a mere stub." What kind of sandpaper leather to wear stone? P. V. Tobias (SKELETAL REMAINS OF BAMBANDYANALO, 1959) saw Bushmen "striking 2 tiny firestones together with great dexterity" and the "edges of the firestones" reminded him of certain microliths. We are reminded that C. van Riet Lowe (MAN, 37, 1945) remarked, concerning the evolution of lithic technology in South Africa: "The progress of man's skill... (is measured) by an abandonment of old methods". Archaeologists are perhaps a little slow to emulate archaeology, in this respect, and abandon old ideas for the sake of progress...or at least question them. (If we don't quit studying our betters we won't know nothin'!) But G. W. Stowe (THE NATIVE RACES OF SOUTH AFRICA, 1905) described a Bushmen "primitive spokeshave" for scraping shafts just like our spokeshaves, and for scraping hides "about 21/2 to 3 inches across the broadest part, and of a rudely circular shape". As we recall it, C. H. Worley, taxidermist, used a celt-like lithic tool for scraping hides - "never cuts them, as modern steel scrapers sometimes do". (We scrape our back against a doorframe, to exhaust the subject.)

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets at 7:30 FM on the 1st Thursday of each month in Room 213, Reid Chapel, Samford University. At the large November meeting held in conjunction with the newly formed Alabama Zoological Society, Dr. Douglas Jones, Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Alabama, gave a well illustrated and thor-

oughly interesting talk on "Alabama Fossil Past". He summarized the general geologic eras and reviewed several of Alabama's digs into reptilian fossil remains, and also showed films from South Africa, one on "How to Catch a Rhino" with fabulous shots of white rhinos, followed by one which delightfully covered "The Kalahari Desert Area".

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at City Hall Auditorium, Cullman. With 45 members present at the October meeting, a film was shown covering a shell mound dig at the Tennessee Valley Pickwick Reservoir. A. B. Hooper III, Marshall County Chapter, will speak to the November meeting on "Pebble Tools".

Montgomery Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. At the November meeting a film on spelunking was shown, and a report was given on a local Indian soapstone quarry. The December meeting will comprise a workshop on pottery washing and typing, members to wear work clothes and meet in the laboratory. A field trip to the soapstone quarry is planned.

Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st TUESDAY of each month at Decatur City Hall. Chapter member Tom Moebes gave a fine talk at the November meeting on "Artifacts of North Alabama", covering what the amateur archaeologist can expect to find in that area. He displayed specimen artifacts from his extensive collection. At the December meeting, John Gustafson, Chapter vice president, will have as his subject: "A Report on Moundville, Alabama."

Noccalula Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. Among the many discussions comprising the November meeting were those covering the Horse Pens 40 project, the annual Chapter dinner meeting to be held December 5, the annual State Meeting at Huntsville, and means of raising at least \$200 for a Chapter contribution to the Noccalula Statue at Noccalula Falls. The principal subject will be "Food" at the December 5 dinner meeting, but the year's activities of the Chapter will be reviewed and 1969 officers introduced.

(Sorry, but the Chapter News mail was a bit light this month - Ed.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR NOVEMBER: (Just in time to attend the Annual Meeting December 7th)

Kenneth J. Grimes, 5518 - 84th St., Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373
Mark Ogilvie, 518 - 10th Ave., Jacksonville, Ala. 36265
Atha Wayne Russell, Route 1, Belmont, Miss. 38827
Hugh J. Stewart Jr., 1824 McCall Drive, Anniston, Ala. 36201 (Family)
William D. Witt, Route 3 Box 224, Russellville, Ala. 35653 (Family)

STATE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING: This, of course, is our biggest item of State News this month, and we sincerely hope the item on the first page of this issue, as well as the the "Yellow Page" in the back of this issue, which page was so thoughtfully and beautifully prepared by the host Huntsville Chapter, will entice you to be on hand bright and early on the morning of "Pearl Harbor Day".

FAIRLY BLUSHING with internationality, we receive a brochure via Deutsche Bundespost from R. Oldenbourg Verlag, 8 Munchen 8, Rosenheimer Str. 145. It seems that 34 international authorities are publishing Ein Handbuch, RASSENGESCHICHTE DER MENSCHHEIT, edited by Karl Saller. We understood best the map of India showing the "Frequenz des Blutgruppengens A" - "blut", we take it, meaning "blue" blood - duck!

NEW TENNESSEE PUBLICATION: From the November issue of THE INTERAMERICAN, Newsletter of the Instituto Interamericano, Dr. Carl B. Compton, Director, we cull the following item of interest, we are sure, to Alabama amateurs:

"TENNESSEE: "Archaeological Investigations in the Tims Ford Reservoir, Tennessee, 1966". Edited by Charles H. Faulkner. 1968. 276 pp.; Ill.; Maps; Charts. This a most

complete report of an archaeological survey made under a National Park Service grant. Such reports form the resource material for present and future scholars but, frankly, they are a bit of rough going for the busy professional immersed in totally different cultural material and, for most amateurs outside of the region in point and areas contiguous thereto, they are colder than northern Montana in February. We, of course, are interested in archiving and even reading such material and thus getting an education in spite of ourselves. This report was published by the Dept. of Anthropology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville. No price given. We assure the editor and authors that the report will receive excellent care and will be available to interested persons on call. Our sincere thanks for this valuable volume."

(We will probably hear more about this publication at our Annual Meeting - Ed.)

"FENG SHUIS" NOT EXTINCT! The "feng shui", a popular "spirit" in China which must not be "offended", long interfered with mining in China, and in 1876 caused the first short railroad between Shanghai and Woosung to be torn up (back to the Coolie pole!). Quite recently the local peasantry invoked the feng shui to prevent the building of a much-needed road. However, the Supreme Court has abolished the law against evolution in the last 2 of our States - can we hope now that everybody will evolve?

SOVIET AND CHINESE translations of sociology, archaeology & anthropology are now available to the English-speaking world in scholarly quarterly journals, and should fill a real need. Obtainable from INTERNATIONAL ARTS & SCIENCES PRESS INC., 901 N. Broadway, White Plains, N.Y. 10603.

AMATEURS TO THE RESCUE: Tom Lee, editor and publisher of the ANTHROPOLOGICAL JOURNAL OF CANADA quarterly, let it be known that he had no papers for his January issue, and especially solicits amateur papers. Shortly he had papers, or promises, for $2\frac{1}{2}$ issues – good work, amateurs. A paper in his No. 4, 1968 issue asks if "too much Paleo" in Alabama has helped to make it too familiar to get the attention it deserves – one of 5 very readable papers. Address Tom (to read or publish) at Universite Laval, Centre d'Etudes Nordiques, Cite Universitaire, Quebec 10e, Canada, \$4.50 per year.

SCOTT'S LAST EXPEDITION (Beacon Press, \$1.95 paperback), the absorbing diary of his fatal trip to the South Pole, reminded us again of the refrigerating advantages of glaciated areas, and the abundance of easy-to-kill animals - even in isolated Antarctic regions. And we wondered again why Ice Age man couldn't have crossed to America on an ICE BRIDGE:

ANTIQUE GUNS: Glancing through THE AMERICAN GUN, summer 1961, we noted a photograph of a Nepal tribesman with an East India Company percussion cap rifle of a vintage prior to 1860, his "pride and joy". We nowadays arm primitive peoples with the most lethal weapons possible, but prior to World War II it was more customary to restrict them to "safer" guns. In fact, as late as 1957 the Brandon Flint Factory, County of Suffolk, was producing 1,250,000 gun flints annually for the old guns still used by primitives and some "gun cranks". The caverns or mines known as Grimes Graves, several miles from Brandon, are where Early Man chipped flints for many thousands of years. During the Napoleonic wars, as many as 400 knappers produced gun flints at Brandon - a flint lasts for only 40 to 60 firings. Mr. Edwards, the owner in 1957, served a 7 year apprenticeship learning to strike off "blades" with the 3-pound hammer and "chop" them into 2,500 gun flints a day. Before percussion caps became popular in the 1830's Brandon produced some 10 tons of gun flints a week. Tons of waste are sold for paving and glassmaking. The Dover Cliffs are quite a source of flint supply, to have made hand axes, projectile points and gun flints all these many thousands of years without exhaustion. Visit the Flint Knapper's Inn when you are in Brandon, and write us about the local chat:

ANNUAL MEETINGS ARE MEMORABLE OCCASIONS

ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

DECEMBER 7, 1968

RUSSELL ERSKINE HOTEL

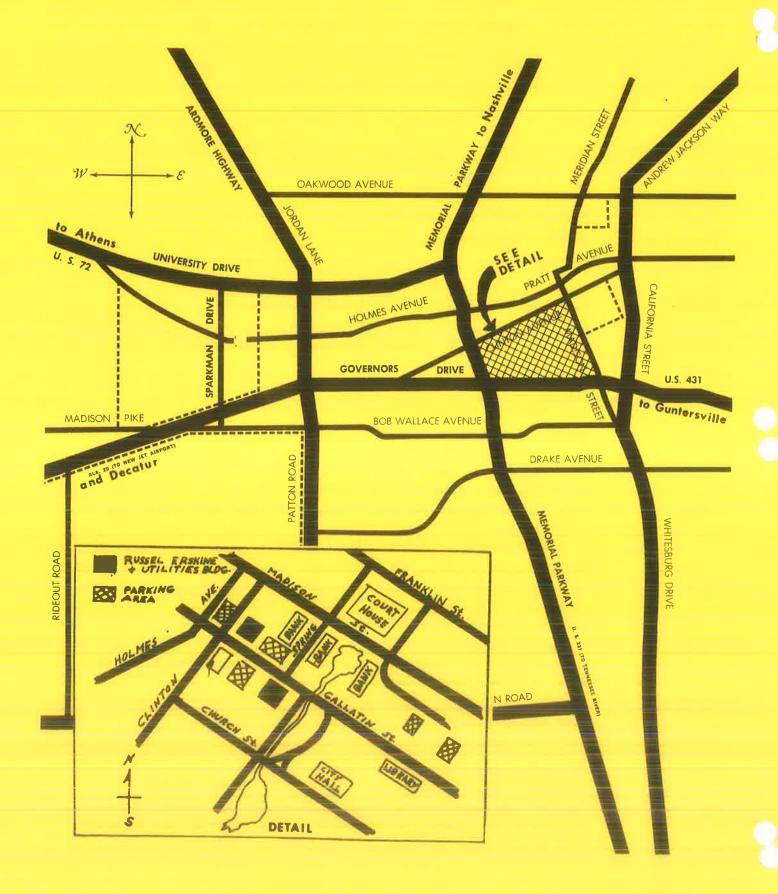
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UTILITIES BUILDING AUDITORIUM HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

9:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION AND DISPLAYS
10:30 a.m.	BUSINESS MEETING
	WELCOME - A. J. Wright, President, Huntsville Chapter David W. Chase - President AAS, Presiding
11:30 a.m.	LUNCHEON ² - Russell Erskine Hotel Ballroom
	PROGRAM: "SUMMARY OF 1968 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES IN ALABAMA" David Dejarnette, University of Alabama
1:00 p.m.	PAPER SESSION
	WELCOME - 1969 President, AAS Bart Henson - Program Chairman, Presiding
	"MAPS, DRAWINGS, AND EXCAVATION OF FORT CONDE" Nicholas H. Holmes - Mobile, Alabama
1:30 p.m.	"FORT TOULOUSE, FIRST INVESTIGATIONS, 1966" David W. Chase - Montgomery, Alabama
2:00 p.m.	"FLAKING TECHNIQUES: Methods, Identification, and Historical Significance" O. Houston Wright - Huntsville, Alabama
2:30 p.m.	BREAK - View Displays - Refreshments - Courtesy Huntsville Chapter
3:15 p.m.	"RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN TENNESSEE - THE LEGACY AND LIABILITY OF HIWASSEE ISLAND" Charles H. Faulkner - University of Tennessee
4:00 p.m.	"ARCHAIC LIFEWAY" John W. Griffin - Southeast Archaeological Center of National Park Service - Macon, Georgia
5:15 p.m.	CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT 1969 AAS President

Registration: \$1.00
2Luncheon: Approximately \$2.75 at conclusion of luncheon

Special rates for meeting attendees staying at Russell Erskine
Hotel - \$5.00 Single, \$8.50 Double. Make reservations directly
with Hotel at 123 Clinton Avenue, West, Huntsville, Alabama 35801



THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Following are the objectives stated in our Constitution, slightly modified for emphasis: To promote informed interest in the study of Archaeology in Alabama and neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research in such ways as surface scouting, mapping, marking, studying and especially reporting; to promote and support professionally directed excavations and discourage unsupervised "digging"; to promote the conservation of archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws prescribing such; to oppose the sale of antiquities, and the manufacture and sale of fraudulent artifacts; to encourage and develop a better understanding of archaeology through providing Newsletters, Journals, Chapter and State meetings, helpful associates and good fellowship; to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional; and perhaps most importantly, to give everyone the opportunity to "do something about archaeology" through the accomplishment and enjoyment of these high aims.

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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