

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

APR 5 - 1966

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT - 1965-66 WINTER PROJECT

Under contract agreement with the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama Inc., the University of Alabama has been conducting a site survey of the Buttahatchee River drainage in Lamar County, Alabama, for the specific purpose of finding a stratified site or sites containing Lively Complex materials, worthy of extensive excavation next summer. The work was undertaken on weekends. Although a few weekends were missed because of bad weather, a total of 22 days was spent on the survey.

Due to the nature of the problem being investigated, arbitrary (though not inflexible) limits were put on the area to be covered. We were not limited, as most surveys are, by the future flood level of a proposed reservoir. We were, however, limited by time. We worked primarily in the area which showed the heaviest occupation, the northeastern quarter of Lamar County. In so doing, we obtained a good picture of a limited area, rather than a hazy picture of an unlimited one. We now have a clear idea about the various types of sites available, their distribution, where to look for them, etc., which would not have been so clear had our efforts been more spread out.

The results of this survey have been extremely promising. Including the 11 original sites located by Matthew Lively, 36 sites were visited and tested for depth on a limited basis with a post-hole digger. Numerous likely wooded areas were also tested in hopes of finding a deep site. Representative samples were taken from the surface of all sites for purposes of seriation analysis in the event that stratigraphy was not found. We encountered a few single component sites without Lively materials, which will be valuable during analysis.

It was found that most of the sites were shallow due to years of erosive farming, with all material confined to the plow zone. There were, however, several sites which seemed to have some depth. These were tested further with 5-foot test squares excavated in arbitrary 4-inch levels.

Two of these sites are highly recommended for excavation next summer. The first is located on a small terrace remnant about a half-mile from the river at Henson Springs. The site has been wooded for the past 20 years and has escaped complete erosion although it does not have as much depth as we would like. In the 20 inches of soil before sterile Cretaceous gravels are encountered, there is a steady increase in quantity and size of yellow jasper material with depth, and a corresponding decrease in red jasper material with depth. This is significant in view of the fact that Lively Complex material occurs only on yellow jasper pebbles in the area. This site should at least be trenched this summer.

The second site recommended for further work is a small shelter in an extensive outcropping of sandstone along the Buttahatchee above Henson Springs. A 5-foot test at

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the dripline gave similar stratigraphic indications, but much more depth.

There are a number of other promising sites which need to be tested, but which for various reasons (primarily time, weather and lack of permission) were not feasible for testing during the limited time period of this preliminary survey. It would be desirable if during the course of the summer's work, small testing parties could be sent out to investigate these sites.

A full summer's work in Lamar County is highly recommended. It is felt that the results would be something important and definitive regarding this heretofore unexplored lithic complex in Alabama.

Margaret V. Clayton, Supervisor

GEOLOGICAL BRIEF, BUTTAHATCHEE RIVER BASIN LIVELY COMPLEX TYPE SITES

The Buttahatchee River Basin is in the stage of terrain evolution geologically described as late maturity. Typical features are low stream divides, occasional meanders, few tributaries and a trunk stream approaching base level but still adjusting its channel vertically as well as laterally.

This area has evolved from what is described as youthful topography with characteristics that can be determined. In recent geologic studies of the area, old stream channels have been found and some meander relations have been determined. Two terrace levels have been found which bear archaeological materials.

There is not yet sufficient evidence to date the terraces and channels, but work is progressing and some paleontological evidence is yielding information on the subject. Geological progress reports will be made from time to time, and a summary report will be prepared and submitted at a later date.

T. R. Gray, Geologist

MORE ON THE "AMATEUR PROBLEM"

During the past year especially, we have included in the Newsletter a number of articles on this subject which continues to be one of great concern. Several months ago, we received an appreciated communication from Dr. E. Mott Davis, Director, Research in Anthropology, University of Texas, and Editor, Texas Archeological Society Newsletter, with which he enclosed several "amateur problem" articles published in the TAS Newsletter some years ago. Since the articles seem to be still eminently applicable and timely, we are quoting them for your consideration:

"ARCHEOLOGISTS AND POT-HUNTERS. There is inevitably a conflict of interests between those who dig for specimens alone - the "pot-hunters" - and those who dig for information on human history - the archeologists. The important question is not whether one is a professional or an amateur; it is whether one is an archeologist or a pot-hunter. Pot-hunting is a most enjoyable hobby, but unfortunately, it destroys good scientific information. And therein lies the conflict.

There have been some legal efforts to curb pot-hunting, especially on public lands. The Federal Antiquities Act, of more than 50 years standing, prohibits digging in sites on Federal lands without a permit; but it is seldom enforced, and pot-hunting on Federal lands goes on apace. Some states have enacted similar legislation, in an effort to preserve the information on their past. Texas has some laws relating to the handling of antiquities, but they are directed mainly against non-Texans, not against pot-hunters.

Actually, laws to curtail the plundering of Indian sites on public lands are ineffectual and pointless if people in general do not understand the need for the laws. After all, Americans do not tolerate UNNECESSARY restrictions on their freedom of action. The main job of selling people on the value of systematic archeological work and the harm of pure specimen-hunting (except surface hunting), must fall primarily on those everyday citizens who understand these problems, because the few professionals are, by and large, not public-relations men. In other words, in Texas the job falls

on the members of the TAS.

And it is heartening to note the number of persons in the Society who have been influential in just this way. Dr. Ray, the founder of the Society, is an example who comes immediately to mind, but there are many others, both now and in the past, whose influence has been and is being felt. In a number of places members of the Society have enlisted the aid of Boy and Girl Scouts in systematic recording of archeological finds, and have been creating a real interest on the part of the younger generation in careful work. This practice stands in sharp contrast to those other places - all too numerous - where the Scouts are one of the most destructive forces affecting archeological sites. In such places the boys, or girls, are interested, energetic and led by people concerned (sincerely enough) only with the collection of specimens. When such a group gets through with a site, it looks like shell-torn France. Whatever archeological information was there has been destroyed, and no one has really learned anything.

Occasionally it is worse than that. One of our members in Houston has been having trouble with a boy who - encouraged by his parents - has been looting excavations where careful records were being kept. "He took great delight in destroying the continuity of my records, even bragging about his destruction to others." What a disgrace that such behavior can take place! Admittedly this is an extreme case, in the malice that was shown; but still, similar events are not altogether uncommon, as many TAS members can testify from personal experience. The plunderers are 15th-century minds working in a 20th-century environment. What chance do laws to preserve scientific evidence have, when people can KNOWINGLY destroy scientific information, and still be considered respectable members of their communities?

But there is a better side to it. Many people, like the Scouts mentioned above, destroy archeological information not out of malice or greed, but because they have no way of knowing what else they might do in their digging. It is for this reason that we are working on the TAS Field Techniques manual. And everywhere you find people who would like to see serious archeology carried on, and would like to support it, if they knew what support is needed. In other words, selling archeology is not so much a matter of "converting sinners" as it is of giving encouragement and information to the many people who already would like to help out. In Texas, the major part of this job falls on the TAS membership."

E. M. Davis

"POT-HUNTERS WITH PH.D.'S. The full-page blast about 'Archeologists and Pot-hunters' in the last issue of Texas Archeology has occasioned a good deal of comment, especially in other archeological society newsletters. Perhaps the most cogent remarks come in a letter from Arthur George Smith, Secretary-Treasurer of the Archaeological Society of Ohio. Mr. Smith is fondly known to many of us as 'The Old Sarge'. He writes a regular section in The Tennessee Archaeologist. Regarding pot-hunters, he has this to say:

'All the pot-hunters are not bewhiskered Arkansas hillbillies. Some of them hold degrees and even head museums. The sin of pot-hunting is loss of data. I could list pages of digs, done by men who call themselves archeologists, that were merely pot-hunting. What else can you call it, when the material is stored unworked down in the stacks of a museum, all trace of the notes lost somewhere in the files? The digger moves to another institution, with the field notes in his possession; or else perhaps he dies. In one case, I succeeded after years of hunting in finding the notes. I offered to work them up, then let the original digger check the paper, and even publish it under his name. Nothing doing. That site was vandalized as much as if no notes at all had been taken and the material sold to "the pretty rock collectors", as my old buddy calls them.'

To these remarks your Editor, a professional who has himself sinned in this respect, utters a hearty Amen. As we have said before and will say again on these pages, It Ain't Science If It Ain't Published. The Old Sarge has hit the nail on the head."

(Editor's Note: And to both the above articles, we add an even heartier Amen!)

SOME ARTICLES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

We are indebted to Robert B. Clem, President, Huntsville Chapter, for having supplied the following 3 items, from which portions are quoted, and which we hope you might find of sufficient interest to seek out and read the whole text:

VALIDITY OF RADIOCARBON DATES ON BONE, by Dr. M. A. Tamers and F. J. Pearson Jr., from NATURE, 12-11-65, 2½ pages. "A survey of the scientific literature reveals the fact that carbon-14 dates on bone often do not accord with independent estimates of the site ages. Bone dates are generally regarded as considerably less reliable than determinations using charcoal, wood or other materials with large carbon contents (except shell). Most laboratories are in agreement that, whenever possible, bone should not be used for radiocarbon dating.

However, in many instances important finds are made where the only datable material available is bone. A problem illustrating this is the well-known palaeo-indian site, Muaco, in Venezuela, which is a kill site. No charcoal was found associated with the animal bones and human artefacts. Two specimens of the bones have given carbon-14 ages of $16,375 \pm 444$ B.P. and $14,300 \pm 500$ B.P., which are the oldest dates associated with human habitation in South America. Furthermore, these dates fall within a period (between 12,000 and at least 25,000 years ago) in which there was little or no human activity in North America, as evidenced by the scarcity of radiocarbon dates of these ages. A serious controversy has arisen as to whether the Muaco site is really as ancient as the radiocarbon dates indicate or whether it is possible that radiocarbon dating of bone can give falsely old ages.

...Recently, Berger, Horney and Libby have concluded that, with an acid-dissolving preliminary treatment, bones will be capable of reliable radiocarbon ages. Dates on bone not so treated can give incorrect ages, but there is no indication of evidence that the errors could be such as to make the bone samples appear older than they really are (which is the question in the Muaco site)..."

(Editor's Note: The whole article describes the methods used for dating and tends to indicate bone samples are generally shown as younger than associated charcoal.)

JAPANESE IN B.C. AMERICA? from SCIENCE NEWS LETTER, 89:53 1-22-66. "Fragments of ancient pottery found in Ecuador indicate that the Japanese landed in America in 3,000 B.C. - thousands of years before Leif Ericson or Christopher Columbus.

Research by 2 archaeologists, Drs. Clifford Evans and Betty J. Meggers of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., show that there are strong similarities between the designs and pottery techniques of ancient Ecuadorian artifacts and those of ancient Japanese pottery.

The pottery fragments, unearthed at the village Valdivia, on the Pacific coast of Ecuador, show markings such as zigzag gouges, parallel lines and grooves that were uncommon elsewhere in the world at that time except on Japanese pottery, in particular from the Jomon sites on the westerly islands of Honshu and Kyushu.

The pottery was made in Ecuador, but under the influence of Japanese, say the archaeologists, who are husband and wife. Perhaps a fishing boat was caught in a typhoon off Japan and was swept away in prevailing ocean currents, traveling first to the northeast, then to the southeast on an arc of more than 8,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean. Before that time the people of that area did not know how to make pottery. The newcomers from Japan began to instruct the Valdivians, who were such apt students that their pottery soon equaled and perhaps surpassed that of distant Kyushu.

The researchers said "Fortunately, it was possible for us to visit Japan and to examine and photograph pottery from a number of Early and Middle Jomon sites on Kyushu, with results that have supported the hypothesis of trans-Pacific origin for Valdivia Phase pottery beyond all reasonable expectation."

First clue to the theory of Japanese landings was found in 1961 by an amateur archaeologist, Emilio Estrada, who uncovered a fragment of pottery with a rim and herringbone markings similar to those of an ancient jar from Honshu Island. This fragment was found in a site calculated by various means to date from 3,000 to 2,300 B.C."

CULTURAL PATTERNS IN NARRATIVE, by Benjamin N. Colby, from SCIENCE, Vol, 151, 2-18-66. "There has been a revival of interest in the anthropology of folk literature, and valuable studies are beginning to appear...Only very recently has it become possible, through the use of computers, to process large numbers of narrative texts having many variables in order to discover statistically significant patterns which are culturally distinctive and amenable to testing in the field...

Anthropologists often speak of culture patterns, but only in a few sectors of culture have they found clear evidence for patterned relationships. Language is one such sector. What kind of cognitive apparatus permits a child to understand sentences of his language that he has never before heard, or to produce understandable sentences which he himself has never before spoken. In order to study how novel sentences are created, linguists postulate the existence of some sort of cognitive structure (the organization of information in the brain), and they search for phonemic relationships, rules of grammar, and other linguistic patterns which evidence this structure...

Kinship and social organization are other areas in which patterns have traditionally been discerned by anthropologists. Now, advances are being made toward greater understanding of the distinctive semantic components of systems of kinship terminology. These components, though they vary with different systems, characteristically concern such matters as the generation and sex of the relative or connecting relative, the sex of the speaker and the lineality. The kinship terms can be diagrammed in matrices that demonstrate how these semantic components combine to define the kin terms.

...The most widely known discussion of overall culture patterning is Ruth Benedict's PATTERNS OF CULTURE, which presented the view that cultural configurations pervade all behavior. Benedict described 2 types of cultures - cultures of the Apollonian pueblos of the Southwest and those of the Dionysian Indians of the Great Plains...

...Counts of words belonging to different conceptual domains - domains such as affection, assistance, cognition, competition, perception, space and time - have suggested interpretations of folk tales which can be tested in various ways...

Narrative - at least narrative as we usually define it - has certain requirements which seem to be universal. These include a setting in time and space...Examples are the familiar "once upon a time" or "long, long ago" of the folk stories we know best. In general, one expects to find a high frequency of time words at the beginning of folk stories..."

(Editor's Note: This entire article, 6 pages, will be of interest to serious amateurs)

DEDICATED DONORS

Last month we closed our SECOND 1965 fund drive. If we get an IMPERATIVELY good site to excavate next summer and our 7th-year fund drive becomes an inescapable MUST, we deserve a "vacation" between drives. But as we were a bit short, we did leave our books open for "dedicated donors", drive or no drive, and found we have some!

Harold K. Kleine and Alice M. Burns both got the idea on March 5, and called our attention to the fact that Hal, a seasoned member, and Alice, a recent member, have other things in common. Hal began his archaeological career with Paleo artifacts, and Alice began with pebble tools (found her first potsherd the other day - but discarded it in the rubble! - a new archaeological generation for fair!). Hal reported the first Paleo site in Alabama. And this is the 6th consecutive donating year for Hal, 6th consecutive month for Alice!

Richard A. Humbard, CHARTER donor, and Fred J. Schneeberger Jr., NEW donor (from distant Knoxville), both got the urge on March 7. Fred, Dick will make you a good model as a doer as well as a donor. He follows his archaeological work right on through to publication, so that WHAT HE LEARNS WE CAN ALL LEARN. That is why we have a SOCIETY, pooling our knowledge as well as our efforts.

George E. Russell began donating when he joined in 1961, and tho plagued with doctor-billitis said he sure didn't want to miss out on our pebble tool campaign - March 11. George is working on a long-range major undertaking - a huge styrofoam panel mounted

with all Alabama projectile point types, as nearly as possible in proper succession (with in-between types too), and with all available radiocarbon dates as they come in. This is eventually to go to the Indian Room of the Birmingham Museum of Art. If you would like to have a hand in this MUSEUM PROJECT, George lacks these point types: Angostura, Buzzard's Roost Creek, Catahoula, Jeff, Knight Island, Lerma Pointed Base, Pedernalis, Livermore, Maples, Redstone, Stanfield Triangular, Sublet Ferry and Wheeler, and needs better examples of Benton & Elk River.

Tatham R. Eskrigge, our New Orleans CONSULTING GEOLOGIST member, we learned on March 15 had sent a donation along with an order for the Cambron-Hulse projectile point handbook to Dave DeJarnette on March 3. AND he wrote: "My wife and I hope to become more closely and actively associated with the Society, and hopefully anticipate participating in a dig". We shall also "hopefully anticipate" - we can use geologists by the dozen. He also mentioned the booklet for new members we suggested in our last issue, and suggested a map of Alabama - an "animated archaeological map" with our Chapters, Moundville, Russell Cave, our major sites, areas not yet covered by Chapters, etc., would in particular make our situation "visible" to our many out-of-state members. Reckon we could charge "tourist attractions" for the advertisement and help finance the booklet??? (Then sell them booklets and make a little more???)

As this is being written, we hear rumors of several additional donations, so now we are only \$413.14 short of our goal, thanks to DEDICATED DONORS!

BOOK REVIEW

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF NEW YORK STATE, by Dr. William A. Ritchie, The Natural History Press, Garden City, N.Y., 1965, 342 pages, 135 Photographs, Drawings & Maps, \$12.50. This is a handsome volume, though handsomely priced too. The Indian archaeological succession is presented from Paleo through Historic, and substantially documented with detailed references to specific sites. Our narrow "area-archaeology" leaves us unable to fully evaluate this book, but of course Dr. Ritchie is widely known for his extensive work in New York State, and this book adds hitherto unpublished information.

We especially noted his careful qualifications, definitions and sometimes implied criticisms of current usages. In the same vein we wondered if his "drills" were typed as carelessly as ours. We wondered why our Stanfield-Worley site was not mentioned on page 32, or in the references or index. The designation of a drilled section of deer antler as an "antler shaft straightener" (one of several names used in the literature) has been questioned by Josselyn on the basis of years of experience in straightening shafts as well as actual and unsuccessful experiments with such a device (Journal of Alabama Archaeology, Vol. 3, No. 2, 1957). We have grown highly allergic to seeing it stated, without a shred of evidence, that "...the Early Hunters were related to a population which spread into North America via a land bridge at the Bering Strait during the latter part of the Wisconsin glacial age..."

The many fine illustrations of typical materials and sites, coupled with the overall approach to the story of New York's prehistory, makes a generally fascinating story. Dr. Ritchie has presented both facts and deductions, and there is no doubt the professional and the amateur will find the book the most definitive for the area.

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at University of Alabama Extension Center. The March meeting was extensively addressed by Dan Josselyn on "ALL About Pebble Tools", a detailed and enlightening discussion supporting the authenticity of a pebble tool complex for Alabama. At the April meeting, Steve B. Wimberly will discuss "Indian Pottery of Alabama", covering the decorative traditions of our pottery.

Choctawhatchee Chapter meets on the 1st Monday of each month at the Dale County Library, Ozark. At the March meeting, H. L. Holman, retired Ozark architect, displayed his collection made over the past 50 years, including unusual points and polished artifacts from different parts of the U.S.A. A Board Meeting is planned to get the Henry

County site project squared away. Regretfully announce Vice President Thom Marlow has completed his Army tour and is headed for his Houston, Texas, home.

East Alabama Chapter meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at Room 247, Funchess Hall, Auburn University. No regular March meeting, but Chapter instead making field trip to do surface hunting near Camp Hill on the 13th with Lester King & Bob Hunter heading the group. At the April meeting, Dr. Frank Owsley of the History & Political Science Dept., A.U., will speak to the Chapter on "Benjamin Hawkins, Indian Agent".

Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Records Court, Municipal Bldg. Members have been asked to bring their point type boards and site displays to the March meeting, where a number of important items of business will be discussed. A chapter project to be discussed is rendering assistance to the public library in constantly surveying its archaeological and anthropological holdings, and to serve as an advisory body in these fields of study.

Marshall County Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Food Basket Restaurant, Albertville. At the March meeting, Dr. A. G. Long Jr. lectured on "Burins & Early Man" explaining how burins were made. The sets of silhouette drawings prepared by A. B. Hooper III & Larry Smith, illustrated in the December 1965 JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, can be obtained for 25¢ per set by writing Richard D. Stimler, Route 3, Guntersville, Ala.

Mauvilla Chapter meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Mobile Public Library. At the March meeting, N. H. Holmes will give a status report on plans for the archaeological salvage project at the site of old Fort Condi' near Mobile, where construction of highway approaches to the new Mobile River Tunnell will destroy the site.

Montgomery Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. At the annual business meeting in March, 1966 Officers were elected: Dave Chase, President; Ralph Allen, Vice President; Mary Costello, Secy-Treas; Directors, Don Anderson, Joe Costello & Cadwell Gilder. A film entitled "The Old Stone Age Through The Iron Age in Europe" will be shown at the April meeting. Sessions on pottery and stone type identification, field methods and procedures are being planned to be conducted by the chapter in the near future.

Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Commissioners Chambers, Decatur City Hall. At the March meeting, Sam Mosley spoke on "Restoration and Preservation of Artifacts", giving a well illustrated lecture with 35mm color slides of the State Society summer dig near Ider. The April meeting will be addressed by Rodger Schaefer on the subject: "Indian Cultures". Plans are being made for a summer workshop project at the Flint Creek Rock Shelter, supervised by Jack Cambron.

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Wesleyan Hall, Room W-3, Florence State College. Horace J. Holland conducted the February meeting, holding a point identification class and giving prizes. First prize awarded to A. W. Beinlich Jr. and second prize to John Carroll.

Noccalula Chapter meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. Dr. A. G. Long Jr., Marshall County Chapter, spoke to the March meeting on "History of Archaeology", also showing slides of Sand Mountain rock shelters.

Selma Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Meadowview Christian Church. At the March meeting Mrs. Doris Reimers, Chapter member, spoke on "Invertebrate Paleontology", discussing the main phylum of the Invertebrate Animal Kingdom with the aid of charts, pictures and fossil specimens. Charter member and former board member Aaron Bendersky passed away March 6 following a long illness.

Tuscaloosa Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in Room 25, Social Science Building, University of Alabama. New Officers elected at the March Meeting: President, John W. Cottier; Vice President, Mrs. Rachel Nicol; Treasurer, Mrs. A. L. Baker; Secretary, Joe Benthall. Mrs. Baker will become Secy-Treas in April when Joe Benthall

leaves to accept a position with the Virginia State Department of Archaeology. The illustrated program for the March meeting was given by Craig T. Sheldon on archaeological exploration in the Claiborne & Miller's Ferry Lock & Dam area along the Alabama River, and Joe Benthall spoke on salvage archaeology in the Holt Lock & Dam region on the Black Warrior River.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS FOR MARCH: (And a hearty welcome from Stones & Bones to each of you!)

Mrs. Doris Allegri, Route 2 Box 28, Daphne, Ala. 36532 (Family)
Tyler Bastian, P O Box 1122, Lawton, Okla. 73502
Mrs. Norma Britton, South Church, Fairhope, Ala. 36532 (Family)
M. L. Brown, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Dr. Norman B. Cranford, 442 Pinedale Drive, Auburn, Ala. 36830 (Family)
Dr. Helen Douty, Apt. 7, Woodland Terrace, Auburn, Ala. 36830
Ray F. Hebling, 12 Brown Ave., Daleville, Ala. 36322 (Family)
Thomas Roy Hester, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Texas, Austin, Tex. 78712
Dr. W. L. McLaughlin, 421 Opelika Road, Auburn, Ala. 36830 (Family)
Robert F. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, P O Box 77, Andover, Mass. 01810
John S. Priddy, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
Martha Sharon Priddy, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
W. G. Priddy, Sulligent, Ala. 35586
L. G. St. James, 1206 Beech St. S.E., Decatur, Ala. 35601
Donald W. Sharon, P O Box 164 (83 Laurie Dr.), Fort Walton Beach, Fla. 32548
Ralph Thornhill, Route 1, Henagar, Ala. 35978
Lewis Yaseen, 383 Blount St., Guntersville, Ala. 35976

CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS OF ADDRESS:

Howard C. Brown, 337 Graham Ave., Marion, Va. 24354
John F. Campbell, 1497 Mason Mill Road N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30329
Roy Dickens, Route 1, Weaver Road, Chapel Hill, N.C.
Charles G. Drake, P O Box 537, Union City, Ga.
Dr. B. F. Thomas Jr., 118 S. Gay St., Auburn, Ala. 36830
Jimmy Walden, 102-A Milner St., Hartselle, Ala. 35640
John A. Walthall, 7425 Rome Ave., Birmingham, Ala. 35206
Dr. R. W. Work, 519 Wade Ave., Apt. 5, Raleigh, N.C. 27605

CORRECTION OF NAME:

Aljerald Powers (not Alfred J.), Route 4 Box 159, Sylacauga, Ala. 35150

BAD ADDRESSES: (If any of you know these folks, have them give us a better address!)

Alvis Frith, Route 3 Box 330, Selma, Ala. (formerly)
James F. Hopgood, formerly 513 S. 6th St., Columbia, Mo.
Russell F. Tate, formerly Route 1, Phil Campbell, Ala.

THOSE 1966 STATE SOCIETY DUES!!! All unpaid members have received a special final notice from Secretary Schaefer, calling attention to the situation, also reminding those of you still on the delinquent list that unless your dues are paid, and promptly, no more STONES & BONES NEWSLETTERS will be forthcoming after this April issue, and, of course, no 1966 JOURNALS. So settle up and keep up, please!

Secretary Schaefer got quite a kick out of one reminder returned by an old friend of our State Society, who appended a drawing of a hitch-hiker with extended thumb (cut out for emphasis) showing his desire to be picked up and carried on in our Society, and stating: "So sorry, I overlooked it". Stay with us, friends!

"OLD ROMAN RUINS" IN ALABAMA: "after the fashion of the blast furnaces of ancient Briton...heavy, stolid, massive, a heritage of the Roman iron makers...intact and centuries old." So wrote Ethel Armes in the STORY OF COAL AND IRON IN ALABAMA, 1910, about the Franklin County "Cedar Creek furnace" - the first in Alabama. The blast was

supplied "by a kind of bellows run by water power" and a forge hammer was "lifted by water power and let fall by its own weight" - 500 pounds. "Miss Liza Ann Hamilton and Mrs. Jane Sherrill...to this day distinctly recall hearing...the incessant throb and ring of the big hammer, sounding day and night over the country for miles and miles."

Allen O'Reilly, Russellville, scion of a pioneering family of Franklin County, is doing a one-man job to preserve artifacts produced by this old furnace, and promote proper display and recognition of this Alabama "first". "Old Roman Ruins" in Alabama would seem a fitting project for local industrial interests. (Thanks to Alice Burns).

Johnny Waters, who consistently and persistently "makes our headlines", does it again. This year at the Northwest Alabama Regional Science Fair, Florence State College, his project won:

First Place in Boys Junior Physical
Second Best in Fair
Grolier Award

A Space & Astronomy Award!!! (55 schools in competition!) "THE GENUS PENTREMITE", a fossil Blastoid (way over our head!) was Johnny's project - at 14 years of age! And third year in a row to be a winner! We again congratulate Spencer & Betty Ann Waters, Moulton, Ala., on a fine boy, and on the fine family job they are doing. And they want to express their deep appreciation for the help and encouragement Johnny has received from our Vice President, Tom Cornell, Huntsville Chapter, who does so much for many boys in his dedication to Boy Scout work. To Johnny we send our own AWARD OF THANKS for helping to make this a more intelligent world.

Edward D. Patterson, Curator, Nassau County (N.Y.) Museum of Natural History, ordered a fully autographed copy of the Lively, Long, Josselyn publication on Alabama's pebble tools. He had it bound in blue buckram, with the postmarked envelope included. When this very limited publication is at a premium, he will have a sort of "uncirculated coin", and with his own inspiring foreword:

"These papers are the first publications on what is undoubtedly a new facet in New World Archaeology. What the importance of that new facet is, exactly, remains to be seen. But IMPORTANCE, it seems to me, is a certainty.

The discovery represented in these papers will be valued. But the greater contribution lies in their illustrations, their proof, that an open and openly curious mind should be the most valued tool in an archaeologist's kit." (Don't you like that?)

COTTIER-LUXENBERG. Apologizing for the unintentional delay, we are reporting the wedding on February 26th in Mobile of Randy Lee Luxenberg and John William Cottier, both of whom are well known to Society members over the entire State. As a student, Randy has been a crew member on several of our summer digs, and John has served as a student digger, assistant to Dave and Graduate Student in Charge of several salvage operations. Unquestionably, they will make an archaeological couple "par excellence", and we will look forward to some outstanding joint accomplishments on their part. We want to wish them every happiness! And we hope their wedding presents included many fine things other than shovels, trowels and brushes!

NEWS FLASH: William H. Emanuel, in charge of organizing Choctawhatchee Chapter activities, interrupted us long distance at this juncture to prod promised assistance. Yes, Alice Burns had procured them 7 topo maps, and we had archaeologically marked several and got them off with Dr. A. G. Long's photographs of some of their "crude tools" plus some literature. They have arranged for warehouse facilities to store the immense collection their amazing new site will require, and are brimming over with plans. As we said last month, WATCH THAT CHOCTAWHATCHEE CHAPTER!

THE MONTGOMERY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Newsletter, first we had seen, is virtually a document of achievement - past, present and planned. Their pioneering "Lo 9 report" (Dalton points, etc.) is ready for publication, though "A continuation of work is projected...with assistance from guest participants from the Selma Chapter" - a "first"

in Chapter cooperation? "Mt 52" is being "wound up" and "Mt 56" is under consideration for testing (deep and stratified). Despoiled, neglected, important Fort Toulouse is "the big item on the agenda" - we hope the plunderers have not ruined it entirely. We are proud to see the Montgomery Chapter making this major assault on the unanswered salvage problem under the able guidance of President Dave Chase, and the Selma Chapter cooperating. Doubtless other Chapters would be welcome - write Dave at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, 440 S. McDonough St., Montgomery.

BEST DEFINITION OF ARCHAEOLOGY WE HAVE SEEN: Once he gets "out from under these present items" of work, "I can start getting some work done", our good friend and ally Dr. Don W. Dragoo writes! Same here!

WITH GREAT REGRET we announce the sudden death of Richard N. Hahn Jr., Birmingham, on March 13. Only briefly ill, he had been hospitalized immediately for diagnosis, and the fatal conclusion was most unexpected. Richard had "grown up" as a member and developed a specialty in archaeological art, an interest self-acquired and self-taught. His drawings of projectile points were remarkable even before his talent was recognized and supplied with proper art materials. We do hope that these will be published as a memorial well earned and deserved. We feel deeply the loss of this promising young man, and our hearts go out to Mr. & Mrs. Richard N. Hahn and family.

TOWER OF BABEL? The President of the Section of Archaeology, Staten Island Museum, Albert J. Anderson, writes us about "our Poplar Island points...I believe you call them Gypsum Cave and in Massachusetts they are Corner Removed No. 9". No, we switched to Coe's "Morrow Mountain". Anderson adds that Dr. Maurice Robbins, Bronson Museum, Attleboro, Mass., "is doing research on these point types and so far all are the same! Certainly a step in the right direction - of which we need quite a few. Sherwood M. Gagliano's ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF AVERY ISLAND, Louisiana State University, had us wondering the other day if we knew a lot of his point types by other names: as Marcos, Trinity, Ensor, Piasano, Tortugas, Carrollton, Elam, Fresno, Pogo, Almagre, Frio, Desmuke, Williams, Ellis, Avery, Marshall, Yarbrough, Shulma, Palmillas, Hale, Pontchartrain, Scalloom.

Dr. A. G. Long Jr. has delivered photographs of hundreds of artifacts sent in by Live-ly, Hooper, Holland, Troup, Fowler, Burns, Drs. Kelley & Robbins (Georgia & Mass.), Johnson, Emanuel, Roberts, Mahan, Wimberly. "The photography is out-of-this-world. Whoever did that work is good. They don't come any better" - so wrote Dr. Jeremiah F. Epstein, University of Texas, some time ago when we loaned him some of Doc's photos. So you are in for a treat, or lots of treats, as we publish these.

THE GET-A-NEW-HAT-DEPT.: Dr. Epstein also wrote: "I must admit, before I ran into your gang, I didn't think Alabama had much to offer, but I sure have changed my mind".

BUT - the New York Times, March 6, 1966, still thinks Russell Cave is "the oldest known human habitation in the southeastern U.S." It might pay to advertise OUR activities more widely - folks seem to like us when they discover us.

LINGUISTIC ARCHAEOLOGY: In the large Uto-Aztecan language family each group has a distinctly different word for "bow" - suggesting that the "proto-language" from which they descended antedated the bow and arrow. Thus, linguists too are "excavating" the past. Of the several hundred different Indian languages, only some 20 different families are presently recognized - but that is a lot, and where did they come from, and how long ago! Some of the family groups are estimated to have begun splitting off from the proto-language between 5,000 and 10,000 years ago! SOUTHWESTERN LORE, Colorado Archaeological Society, March 1966, reprinted an interesting paper on this subject by Wick R. Miller from UTAH ARCHAEOLOGY, Vol. II, Nos. 1 & 2. One wonders, too, how many Indian languages may have been absorbed or exterminated in the course of Indian wars and federations.

BOARD MEETING: A State Society Board of Directors' meeting will be held during April.

EDUCATIONAL PAGE

PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE ARTIFACTS

Memories are at best unreliable, and verbal descriptions often leave much to the imagination. How much better it is to have a photograph that gives an accurate impression of the original subject and to study in the closest detail the shape, size, contour, texture and color of the subject. With the discovery and development of photography, new worlds of vision were opened up for us to explore and admire.

The photography of small subjects reveals a wealth of interest, information and beauty so well hidden that sometimes only specialists would know of their existence. Through the medium of close-up photography, this has become a delightful hobby for many amateur photographers, and another tool for the professional archaeologist.

The basic purpose behind all close-up photography is to get as large an image as possible on the film. The essential problem is adapting your camera to operate closer than $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the subject, a distance within which most cameras are slightly uncomfortable. With most adjustable cameras, the closest focusing distance is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The focus of lenses in box cameras is adjusted and fixed in manufacture, and anything nearer than 6 feet turns out fuzzy and out-of-focus. We must get closer if we are to enjoy close-up photography at its best.

Adding a supplementary lens is the cheapest and easiest way of adapting a camera for close-up work. These are known as Porta Lenses, and sell for about \$3.00 to \$6.00, depending on the size. Although they can be used with any camera, their primary use is on cameras which do not have detachable lenses, and whose lens-to-film distances are fixed.

With the camera focused at $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, we add a +1 Porta Lens and move in to 20 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches from the subject. Add a +2, and we are 13 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches away. A +3 brings us in to 10 inches from the subject. These may be combined for even closer distances. An advantage of these supplementary lenses is that they require no exposure increase. The major disadvantage is that the distances must be accurately measured and the correct field (area) covered must be predetermined.

Perhaps the most versatile of all cameras for close-up photography is the single-lens reflex, as it allows the only positive method of close-range focusing and framing. The availability of using and changing lenses from a wide angle to a telephoto, and the physical extension of a lens itself through the use of extension tubes, adds to the versatility of the single-lens reflex, an ideal camera for all general aspects of photography. There are almost 50 brands of the single-lens reflex ranging in price from \$60.00 to \$600.00. This does not mean to imply that you should throw away any camera that you now have, because it can be used with good results.

Regardless of the film you are using, color or black-and-white, the best information available is printed on the instruction sheet that is included in each box of film. Film manufacturers tell us that very few people bother to read the information. This information costs the companies many dollars in research to assist you in obtaining the best possible results on the film, and yet many people completely ignore this and often blame the manufacturer for bad results.

There are numerous publications available to assist one in close-up photography. Eastman Kodak Company has several booklets that are among the best available.

These booklets, listed below, are available through your local dealer in photographic supplies:

KODAK LENSES, SHUTTERS AND PORTRA LENSES - (50¢). This booklet describes the use and application of Portra Lenses with information on determining distance, field size, field width and height. There is a section on useful optical formulas for the more serious photographer.

KODAK FILTERS AND POLA-SCREENS - (75¢). This booklet explains in an interesting and non-technical way the nature of light filters. With the increasing importance of Pola-Screens in modern photography, a section on this subject is included.

PRECISE 35mm TECHNIQUE - (75¢). Today's best 35mm cameras have features that add tremendously to their scope and versatility - such things as interchangeable lenses, exposure controls and many photo-aids and attachments for special purposes. If you understand these photographic tools - know when and where to use them - you will make better pictures. If you don't know how to use them, they will simply be a puzzling array of mechanical gadgets. This booklet was written to help you to get top-notch results from a 35mm camera.

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF GROSS SPECIMENS - (75¢). This booklet deals primarily with the photography of medical specimens. It has considerable data on lighting, backgrounds (shadowless, color, etc.) and the technique is essentially close-up photography. This is one of the best data books available, and is highly recommended for anyone's photographic library.

We can create new worlds of vision to explore and admire with our close-up photographs of our chosen subject of artifacts, over and beyond the purely archaeological record value.

Lester C. King, East Alabama Chapter
Supervisor, Photographic Services
Auburn University

I was so impressed by the following item, which I found in a back issue of the Newsletter, that I wish to call it again to the attention of members, also provide our Secretary Roger Schaefer with extra copies to send to future members.

Sincerely,
A New Member

THE TALKING STONES

There was once a great book - Oh, a fabulous, and incredible, an unbelievable book!! In dimensions, in interest and in basic worth to mankind it was greater than all the books ever written & lost. Oh - the books of books!

You see, it was the history of MAN HIMSELF - the cleverest product of atoms and evolution, and God - as you may wish to say it. The creature as fabulous as this book of his own history, destined to rule the earth, all of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms.....all, that is, except himself. For himself man devised at least half a dozen methods of self-extermination, and continually fought his own kind, and became his own greatest enemy - greater than all the harsh forces of nature had ever imposed upon him.....because, though he sought to understand all other things, even unto the end of the universe, he never made the effort to read the book - to UNDERSTAND HIMSELF.

Oh yes, millions of people saw the great book. And they were fascinated by it indeed. Each demanded a word or paragraph of it. Not just the moron mob - the greater the man, the more he wanted. Napoleon deployed an army to rape Egypt's past - after raping its present. Men of great wealth raped the book to house broken fragments of it in what they call "museums" - thus invoking the 9 Greek Goddesses of culture, the Muses, to excuse their making a mere public spectacle of fragments torn rudely from the BOOK....which only experts can decipher.

In this series on THE AMATEUR PROBLEM (which we think our Society can help to remedy) we first quoted the sad, unsolved aspects of amateur destruction as the professionals lament it....but, too, their hopes to educate the amateurs and realize their vast potential for good. We next stated what we might call "the creed of anthropology" - the respect, the admiration, the high hopes for MAN which man in the mass has never attained....mostly, he would destroy his own species for his own particular little mess of porridge.

This chapter is about YOUR own worst problem as an amateur - COLLECTORITIS. This is the motivating disease which has torn the above book asunder, word by word, paragraph by paragraph, tens of thousands of tons of it....and scattered the undeciphered fragments to the winds where no man may now ever read. Collectoritis is a strange psychosis - it deranges minds sound in every other respect, and educated and responsible in other ways. "Ah, a fragment of man's past!" - and feverishly they mutilate the page, tear it out of context, make it forever meaningless....to put it on the mantel or in an expensive showcase, or just in an old shoebox! Oh, it is an insidious disease, with no known natural immunity - it requires repeated inoculations of indoctrination.

Yet, to add to our problem, we dare not eradicate it entirely.... it is the motivating force, the almost instinctive urge, which energizes both the professional and amateur archaeologist! Happily, though, we need not destroy it - we can employ it! In fact, we can become collectors on 2 counts - we can collect the FACTS with the ARTIFACTS. It is as simple as that - destruction becomes construction. And the thin rank of professionals need us badly, and welcome us with open arms. And instead of diminishing, or merely doubling, our pleasures, our double dose of collectoritis multiplies them a hundred times over - and our own names go indelibly into the great books - a Kleine Site, a Stanfield-Worley Shelter. We shall talk about collecting the FACTS in future issues.....How to make your STONES TALK.

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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