

Alabama Archaeological Society

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Bart Henson
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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

Editor
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2602 Green Mountain Rd.
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Number 1

1981 DUES

Dues for 1981 are now payable to insure continuation of your monthly newsletter and bi-annual journal. See back of this newsletter for your dues category.

The Editors

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham

The Birmingham Chapter meets the second Thursday of each month at the Red Mountain Museum. Call Tom Hutto for further information at 945-1895.

East Alabama

This Chapter meets on the first Thursday of each month in the archaeology classroom, Room 2169, Haley Center, in Auburn, at 7:30 p.m. For information call Mrs. Baker Dean, Jr. at 745-2494. Speaker for the January meeting was Gregory A. Waselkov, who presented "A Report on the Investigations at Fort Jackson and Fort Toulouse".

Huntsville

The program at the December meeting consisted of a very interesting presentation by Mr. Tom Cornell on IMA10, a favorite local site. Mr. Cornell illustrated his talk with slides and exhibits of artifacts from the site.

1981 Chapter officers were elected at the December meeting. President: Mr. Jim Lee. First Vice President: Miss Dorothy Luke. Second Vice President: Mr. Ellis Whitt. Secretary/Treasurer: Miss Cindy Sims. Librarian: Mrs. Georgia Dunn.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 in the Arts Council Conference Room, north end of the Von Braun Civic Center. The speaker at the January 20 meeting will be Mr. Charles Moore of the Muscle Shoals Chapter. Mr. Moore will make a slide presentation on "Mounds and Other Sites in Ohio".

January 1981

NEW MEMBERS

Craig, Mr. Ames E.	100 Colonel Willson Drive Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674
Glass, Mr. James M. III	Apartment #406, 2225 Golf Rd., S.W. Huntsville, Alabama 35802
Ms. Elise Goodson	2208 Briarcliff Drive, S.E. Huntsville, Alabama 35801
Henderson, Mr. & Mrs. Sam, Jr.	5533 Double Oak Lane Birmingham, Alabama 35243
Johnson, Mr. Kenneth W.	111 Ingham Street St. Simons, Georgia 31522
Knight, Mr. Vernon J., Sr.	4958 Meadow Brook Way Birmingham, Alabama 35243
Kunze, Mr. Mike	1812 North Dixon Drive Columbus, Georgia 31906
Lawson, Mr. Curtis S.	P. O. Box 366 Decatur, Alabama 35602
Maddux, Mr. & Mrs. Alan T.	2161 Ivydale Street East Point, Georgia 30344
Marshall, Mr. Richard A.	117 Dunbrook Starkville, Mississippi 39759
Mullen, Dr. Gary R.	804 Socopato Court Auburn, Alabama 36830
Mundy, Mr. Troy T.	108 Bruner Road Dothan, Alabama 36301
Rappleeye, Ms. Lauralee	4605 Beachwood Road College Park, Maryland 20740
Rotenizer, Mr. David E.	C-4 Apartment Heights Blackburg, Virginia 24060
Rohr, Mrs. Nancy M.	10012 Louis Drive, S.E. Huntsville, Alabama 35803
Shrout, Mr. J. R.	Apartment B, Magnolia Dormitory Auburn University Auburn, Alabama 36849
Small, Mr. Robert	354 Teakwood Drive Satsuma, Alabama 36572
Smith, Ms. Susan G.	Apartment #4, Route One Highway 25 South Fulton, Mississippi 38843
Stembridge, Dr. & Mrs. J. D.	P. O. Box 1691 Dothan, Alabama 36302
Tucker, Mr. & Mrs. Rayford	3801 East McCoy Street Guntersville, Alabama 35976
Warren, Mr. Larry	2016-D Colony Drive Huntsville, Alabama 35802
Welch, Mr. Paul D.	University of Michigan Museum of Anthropology Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109

THANK YOU

The Alabama Archaeological Society would like to express its appreciation to Mr. J. Andrew Douglas of Mobile for his generous donation to the Research Fund.

The Editors

BOOK REVIEWS

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY - An Introduction to the Tools and Techniques of Archaeological Fieldwork. By George Sullivan. 273 pages. Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1980. \$10.95.

DISCOVER ARCHAEOLOGY is a book which explains, in terms the layman can understand, the techniques archaeologists use in fieldwork, in the laboratory and in site research prior to fieldwork. This information, although adequate, is not presented in minute detail, as the intent of the book is to provide the reader a usable digest of preliminary information which may be used to plan future involvement in archaeology - directly, via fieldwork with professional teams. To this end, sections of the book list projects under way now in North America which accept volunteers, along with suggestions on selecting the project best suited to the reader's interest, and how to apply for a position on the team. Also, there is a state-by-state listing of archaeological societies, addresses for membership application, chapters, and major sites which are open to visitors - identified as to the nature of the site; i.e., paleo, national monument, etc. Publications of these societies are also identified, by title and costs in some instances.

The author treats some topics not usually found in books of this general nature. The use of metal detectors on archaeological sites, for example, receives a balanced discussion, although "most professional archaeologists look upon metal-detector users with complete disdain, and that is putting it mildly". Divining or dowsing rods also receive notice. Ivor Noel Hume, noted "archaeologist in charge" at Colonial Williamsburg, states that rods have been very useful to him and are included in every Williamsburg archaeologist's box of tricks".

Perhaps the chapter on Pre-Columbian Myth and Mystery is the most used chapter in placing archaeology and myths in perspective. Sacrifice stones, sundial rocks, carved inscriptions, the Norse in America, etc., are all taken to task. Specific sites and "artifacts" are identified and discussed in a manner which provides the reader with a balanced view of the subject.

The book is readable, useful, and worth the \$10.95.

The Editors

DAMERON ROCKSHELTER, JOHNSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY

This report of 235 pages is available for \$9.50 plus \$.50 postage from: Editor, Ethnology; Department of Anthropology; University of Pittsburgh; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260.

The authors, F. J. Vento, J. M. Adovasio and J. Donahue, have put together a thorough archaeological report on excavations at this rockshelter near Paintsville in the mountains of northeast Kentucky. Although the report is paperback, it is printed on good-quality paper and contains numerous photos, tables and lists describing the artifacts recovered. It may be the best-illustrated report that we have seen. Material recovered ranges from early archaic (Kirk) to Mississippian (Hamilton and Madison). Only one burial was uncovered during the excavation. The project was part of the Corps of Engineers Cultural Resources Management Program. The report would be primarily of interest to professional archaeologists, although the many illustrations would also be of value to the avocational archaeologists for comparison purposes.

The Editors

JUAN PARDO'S LEGACY TO MODERN ARCHAEOLOGY

Information from a newly-discovered Spanish document establishes where Hernando DeSoto found an Indian temple containing a treasure in pearls, thus altering the commonly-accepted route of his explorations.

A trio of researchers at the University of Georgia are now finding in the document answers to questions that have long puzzled scholars, including two related stumblers: By what route did Hernando DeSoto (accompanied by more than 500 men and 200 horses) travel through the Southeast on his expedition that culminated in the discovery of the Mississippi River? And, exactly where was Cofitachequi, the big Indian town in which DeSoto found a temple containing a treasure in pearls?

The newly-unearthed document actually is an official account of journeys inland from the Spanish fort of Santa Elena - itself only recently identified as having been established at present-day Parris Island below Charleston - by one Juan Pardo, who a generation after DeSoto's exploits was still seeking an overland route to Mexico.

Just as Desoto fought Indians as well as the terrain, so too did Juan Pardo find Indians waiting for battle in northwest Georgia, ending his ventures.

But the account of the Pardo expeditions details the building of at least five inland forts, and locates Cofitachequi in the vicinity of Camden, South Carolina, on the Santee River, an area long familiar to archaeologists as the location of several Mississippian period (i.e., 1000-1400 A.D.) sites.

One of the Georgia researchers, archaeologist Chester DePratter, told Early Man: "John R. Swanton of the Smithsonian Institution in 1939 placed Cofitachequi more than 100 miles to the west on the Savannah River". He describes the Pardo document as "a real breakthrough", adding: "It not only tells us about Spanish activities in the interior in the 1560s, but sheds light on where Indian towns were located and how they aligned themselves politically, something we could only guess at before".

(From an article in Early Man, 1980.)

The Editors

PRIVATE LIBRARY FOR SALE

A sizeable library on Indians and archaeology, including complete sets of original BAE bulletins and reports, is for sale as a lot. Contact Miss Margaret Peacock; R-3 Box 110 High Point; Chickamauga, Georgia 30707. Phone: 404/931-2271.

LeBaron W. Pahmeyer
Chattanooga, Tenn.

PUBLICATIONS

THE CAMBRIDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARCHAEOLOGY, edited by Andrew Sherratt with a foreword by Professor Grahame Clark. A Crown/Cambridge University Press book. Contains 64 chapters by experts in each period and area; over 400 illustrations and maps. \$35 clothbound + \$2.25 postage. Published by Crown Publishers, Inc.; One Park Avenue; New York, New York 10016.

PREHISTORIC ARCHITECTURE IN THE EASTERN UNITED STATES, by William M. Morgan. The MIT Press; 28 Carleton Street; Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142. \$25.

This book, by one of America's leading architects, shows that primitive man found solutions to many problems that confront modern architects in building design. It is the first overview of prehistoric earth architecture in the eastern United States, from about 2200 B.C. to A.D. 1500, and presents 82 sites which provide examples of how, thousands of years before Columbus, aboriginal architects used earth to shape their environments and landscapes in sites ranging from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Plains.

COLONIAL PLANTATION HOES OF TIDEWATER VIRGINIA, by Keith Egloff. Available at cost (\$3.50) from the Virginia Research Center for Archaeology; Wren Kitchen; The College of William and Mary; Williamsburg, Virginia 23186. 63 pages; 40 illustrations.

The Virginia Research Center for Archaeology has published the first report in its new Research Report Series. COLONIAL PLANTATION HOES OF TIDEWATER VIRGINIA, by staff archaeologist Egloff, is a typology of plantation hand hoes based on an assemblage of 113 seventeenth and eighteenth century hoes recovered from excavations at Kingsmill, James City County, between 1972 and 1975. A total of 162 hoes from six James River plantations were examined for this study, which is a basic guide to the evolution of manufacturing and repair techniques of this particular example of material culture.

The Editors

SWEDISH-BRITISH SHIP BURIAL TREASURES ON DISPLAY

Ship burials, mainly reserved for kings and chieftains, were unique to Scandinavia and areas that came under Nordic influence for about 500 years beginning in the sixth century.

The pre-Viking period 550 to 800 A.D. has been termed the Vendel period, because it was at Vendel, Sweden, that rich archaeological finds were made. Those finds, along with those from Uppsala, Sweden, and Sutton Hoo, East Anglia, Great Britain, are being exhibited at the Swedish Museum of National Antiquities, Stockholm, until mid-August.

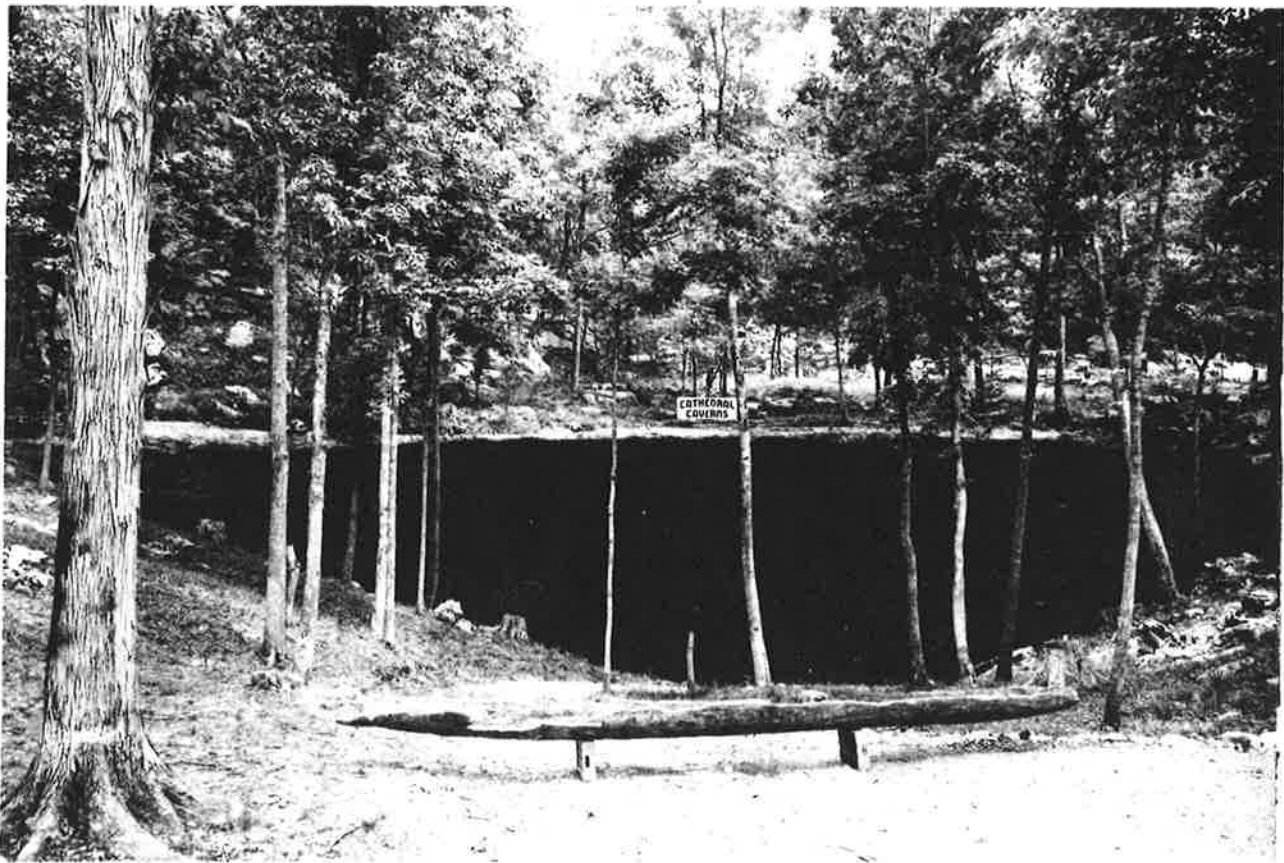
In the burials the dead were placed without cremation surrounded by numerous "grave gifts". These included weapons, shields, horses, cattle, tools, household utensils, jewelry, helmets, clothing accessories and other items, including what are termed "exquisitely decorated pieces of art".

The English site at Sutton Hoo was discovered in 1938. It is possibly the tomb of Raedwald, paramount king of the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. He died around 625 A.D. The site remained unplundered and yielded a wealth of finds, including a famous helmet.

The Sutton Hoo artifacts have been lent by the British Museum. They show many similarities to items from Scandinavian ship burials, giving evidence of political and commercial contacts between the two areas, much as described in the Anglo-Saxon epic of Beowulf.

(From Sea Technology, May 1980)

The Editors



TENNESSEE RIVER DUGOUT CANOE

Approximately 40 years ago an Indian dugout canoe was pulled from the mud bottom of the Tennessee River near Triana, Alabama by mussel fishermen where it had been fouling their lines and nets for some time.

When it was pulled ashore it was upside down, well preserved, and assumed to be a log. Some time later State Conservation Officers patrolling the river bank saw the "log" and turned it over and discovered that it was a dugout canoe.

The canoe was removed to a barn near Triana where it was kept for seven years and then transferred to a new storage shed on the Wheeler Wild Life Refuge for another seven years. About this time, Ed Mahan of the Alabama Archaeological Society was invited to speak in Decatur, Alabama on the subject of "Indian Artifacts of the Tennessee Valley". There, Conservation Officers hearing his lecture, introduced themselves and offered to give him the canoe as they needed the storage space. Mr. Mahan accepted the canoe and with the help of Jay Gurley of Cathedral Caverns, removed it to the caverns where it was placed on display in 1954.

The canoe is 21 feet long and hewn from a poplar log, and has a rounded stern and a pointed prow. The prow is approximately 16 inches long and apparently served as a means of anchorage into the mud river banks. "We can only speculate as to its age; but if it is of Indian origin, it could be 150 years old and possibly much older."

Ed Mahan, Guntersville, Alabama

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 13-18	\$1.00 pp
Vol. 20-24 (\$2.50 to Members)	\$4.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint)	\$5.00 pp
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Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at</i> <i>Durant Bend, Dallas County, Alabama</i>	\$4.50 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$6.50 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types</i>	\$7.35 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Parks Service	\$5.00 pp

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1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

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