

# Alabama Archaeological Society

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

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## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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### BOOK REVIEW

THE SOUTHEASTERN CEREMONIAL COMPLEX AND ITS INTERPRETATION, James H. Howard, edited by Carl H. Chapman, University of Missouri, Columbia; 169 pages, well illustrated, paperback. Memoir No. 6 of the Missouri Archaeological Society. Price not furnished.

The "most vigorous" of the North American Indian cultures, which we call Mississippian, began in the southeastern United States some centuries after the beginning of the Christian era and was destroyed, though already declining, by the advent of the European invasion. In its later stages there was a flowering of "special ritual objects and attendant art motifs". These derive from Middle American influences and apparently represent a religious sort of cult, formerly called the "Southern Cult" and "Southern Death Cult", the present author preferring "Ceremonial Complex".

Alabama's Mound State Monument at Moundville is a classic example of this complex. Other great centers are distributed as widely as Mt. Royal in Florida, Okmulgee and Etowah in Georgia, Hollywood on the Georgia-South Carolina line, Hiwassee Island in Tennessee, Cahokia in Illinois, Spiro in Oklahoma. The truncated pyramidal ceremonial mounds common to these sites range in size up to the huge Monk's Mound at East St. Louis, Illinois, 100 feet high, 710 feet wide and 1,080 feet long and covering 16 acres.

Motifs include sun circles, the forked eye, the hand and eye, skull and femur. God-animal representations include the eagle, pileated or ivory-billed woodpecker, the horned, winged and plumed rattlesnake. The many associated ceremonial objects include shell gorgets with spiders, serpents, human figures, etc. incised; ear spools, the monolithic axe, effigy pipes, notched stone disks. Various costumes include the antlered head-dress, beaded belt, columella necklace pendant.

These sites are so large (85 mounds at Cahokia) that there has been no complete excavation. And this complex is so important that there have been many theories proposed - beginning with mysterious "mound builders" supposed to be unrelated to Indians.

Howard summarizes the known characteristics of this complex, and the previous studies - relying heavily upon Waring and Holder, of course. His major addition beyond critical synthesis is an ethnological study of the remaining indications of this complex in modern Indian communities. For example, there is a photograph of a displaced Alibamu-Kaosati in Texas wearing a shoulder sash with a beaded representation of the flying horned toad. And the Creek "square ground" dances still performed in Oklahoma are shown.

The extensive bibliography includes a time span from Adair (1775) to Willey (1966) and there are many quotations from these sources.

This is not only an excellent summary, but also a readable one. It makes it easy to get the picture of this most important complex. And as a convenient summary with evaluations and interpretations brought up to date, we think it will be valuable on the academic shelf. No price was quoted, but these Missouri Archaeological Society publications have been most reasonable. In our opinion, archaeologists everywhere should have this book, and in the broad area of this complex, it is certainly a must for all.

of us. We suggest that Chapter secretaries would simplify matters for Dr. Chapman by ordering in quantity for members.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL FUND DRIVE  
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Dave DeJarnette and Read Stowe obligingly laid out the material from 2 squares of our more promising test of last summer, in stratigraphic sequence. We were impressed. The Dalton-Big Sandy midden was well represented, including numerous variants and perhaps some projectile points which would rate as types in themselves.

The great abundance of pebble tools quite astonished us - from well below the Dalton level to well up in the midden. Judging by this small test, besides being below, they must also be in association with some known cultures - in this area at least. And - unlikely as it seems - EVERY pebble tool was on the familiar yellow jasper pebbles while EVERY other flaked artifact was on other varieties of chert! That quite amazed us, and supplied some valuable information.

This site is certainly a MUST for further excavation this summer. The flotation method is providing charcoal, seeds, etc., with which we can add to the information gathered at the Stanfield-Worley - which added a new chapter to southeastern archaeology, and the oldest radiocarbon date for human habitation in this area. It is hoped, of course, that we can get a "pebble tool date", which would add another new chapter. The known cultures with which pebble tools may be associated will be an enormous gain over our present knowledge, and which tool types appear on successive levels. And where will the full Lively Complex pebble tool assemblage, as proposed on the basis of surface collections, appear - if it does? This site can almost certainly dissipate some of the "pebble tool fog", which is most devoutly to be desired.

Albert Fisher M.D., our first donor this month, really belonged in the April issue, as he donated to the "non-campaign" before our "official opening" was mailed. Dr. Fisher is a Life Member, one of the small band of charter donors in 1960, and a constant donor making his TENTH contribution. In further comment we want to include

John E. Wood M.D., who discovered this opportunity to DO SOMETHING about archaeology only in 1966, but has responded most enthusiastically and generously, this being his SIXTH donation - and he has also become a Life Member. The medical friends of archaeology always remind us of the several greatest archaeological discoveries made by MEDICAL DOCTORS. On our shelf the plaster replicas of several "half human" skulls remind us, especially that of Pithecanthropus, found by the Dutch physician Wadjak Dubois way back in the 90's, in Java. It was the first discovery to which Haeckel's term "missing link" could be applied. You can imagine, no doubt, the furor that generated! And "pitheco", ape, "anthropus", man - that further boiled the pot! It was of course the most important anthropological find ever made, and by an amateur - which may not have helped the critical scientists to withstand the shock. Dubois was so discouraged that he locked away the skull cap and femur for 30 years! It was not until 1923 that he invited Ales Hrdlicka to visit and examine his finds. When another physician, Dr. Davidson Black, presented the related type Sinanthropus (Peking Man) in 1928, the die-hards of course ran out of all reasonable argument - though anatomist Dr. Raymond A. Dart was given a rough time in 1925 when he presented an even older and "more missing link" Australopithecus - he was still irked when he was in Birmingham several years ago. Another physician-amateur, Dr. John Broom, rushed to Dart's rescue and excavated more Australopithecus remains - and his book in 1946 "awakened with a shock" the scientific world and won the Daniel Giraud Elliot Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, and General Smuts gave him government support in South Africa. Were it not for these alert, and sturdy, physicians it might have been a very long time before such rare finds were made. Our bow to the profession!

Mrs. Mary Alice King joins us for the THIRD time from distant Hurley, New Mexico. The



good people who have helped us in 29 other states never fail to amaze us, and cause us to ask how interested we are in THEIR archaeology! Thanks indeed.

Jake Loftis, of Fayette - welcome to our FIRST new donor of 1969! It is most encouraging to find that there are still people "out there" to be reached with the message that Alabama has DEVISED a WAY in which any interested party can "do something" about archaeology to correct at least a little of the tragic neglect it has suffered here. Unfortunately, our Newsletter reaches only a few hundred of Alabama's millions - but if those few hundred were to educate 10 people each - ????

Gene B. (Mrs. Percy H.) Whiting, of Montrose, discovered this opportunity in 1964 and has been a constant donor ever since, sending her SIXTH generous donation. Though we know full well that archaeological excavation is the "biggest gamble on earth" (or under), and though our gambles have "beat the bank" so often, we have been discouraged by some of our digs. Those who are able to overlook these "dry wells" and support the gamble year after year have graduated to a mature understanding. If they don't "break the bank" this year, however, they will surely pick a considerable winner - we can't miss important information!

Charles R. Walston, ALABAMA COMPLETE FOODS, has come up with a most original and promising donation - MULTIPLE MEMBERSHIPS to both Horace Pumphrey and Bea McCutcheon, Birmingham's popular and perceptive WATV radio personalities! Fundamentally speaking, the only thing wrong with archaeology is its almost complete failure to educate the public to its purposes and needs - or even to pacify the wide hostility. (Did you note the blast which the good article in the BIRMINGHAM NEWS about the excavations of Dr. Karen Joins, Samford University, occasioned?) This largely reflects, of course, a failure to reach our tremendous communications media. NOW WE HAVE A CHANCE. Horace and Bea, very interesting and qualified, both have audience participation programs (9 AM and much of the afternoon). All we have to do is publish material worthy of public dissemination as news or comment which can compete. And even if we can't, our alert members can call in on the programs, and get all over the air, with: "Say Bea, or say, Horace, what did you think about that such-and-such item in our Archaeological Society Newsletter?" And why not call in and congratulate them on being members? We think Mr. Walston has a genius of an idea - and with their new building, Charles and Banks Walston can supply even better wholesale grocery service than they have been known for these many years. Thanks indeed!

Dan Josselyn - well, he may have an idea, too. He says if he has anything left to will, he is going to keep on donating - even when plying a shovel instead of a trowel. But he is still with us, and making a down payment every month on the pleasure he has derived from archaeology for a generation - he says he was "only picking them up" at the age of 4 and missing the big fun.

Ten years! Our fund drive is old enough to reminisce. That first year drive for a full summer dig - that was the big, the exciting one. Everybody said it couldn't be done, and we knew it. (Dr. Tom Lewis paid off later on that prediction!) The fever and the flurry, hopes and despairs. To give you an idea, Matt Lively frequented his favorite cafe, the Little Aristocrat, night after night, and told our story to all who would listen - and accepted their dollars. Of course, he would graciously accept a beer, too. After several such sales pitches, he would find himself saying, with lubricated gratitude: "It is a business to do pleasure with you." Well, dear folks, it really is - a business for archaeology. We hope we can tell the story as "lubricatedly" well as Matt did - he got several dozen new donors that year!

#### EXCHANGE INFORMATION

MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: By some inadvertency, we had not been receiving these publications, and were graciously sent a round dozen of the BULLETINS. Editor

William S. Fowler is doing a fine job, and he is obviously an artist and illustrates both beautifully and liberally. Those who are interested in artifact art should send for the April-July 1965 and/or April-July 1968 issues; if particularly interested in ground stone and pottery illustrating the April-July 1966 issue; if interested in drawing burials the April-July 1967 issue; and for drawing shelter sites, the January 1969 issue. The prices are \$1.50, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$1.50 and \$0.75. Member dues are only \$3.00 and the BULLETINS will introduce you to the considerable difference between Alabama and New England archaeology. Address the Secretary, Dr. Maurice Robbins, Director, Bronson Museum, Attleboro, Mass. 02703. (Mr. Fowler is Curator.)

TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: Bravo - in their drive for state-supported archaeology, they have reached the stage of: "A note to the Governor and your own area legislators from you and your friends CAN bring about this much needed program in Tennessee! Amen! And this notice is a SPECIAL LETTER to all members. Go gettun, guys and gals.

Our Bob and Marjorie Gay attended their Annual Meeting, hosted by the Southern Kentucky Chapter at a Sportsman's Club, and enjoyed it immensely. Our Jack Cambron was also there and displayed pebble and slab tools from Savage Cave. The \$3.00 registration fee covered the excellent meal served.

ARKANSAS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: We sop up every Newsletter like fresh home-baked bread does gravy to see how the FIRST state-supported archaeology prospers - and it does. We are of course particularly interested in the amateur opportunity and potential, and delighted to see it get "top billing". As: "Members of the Society have been most helpful - indispensable, in most cases - in acquainting the Archaeologists with the sites and collections in the local area. It is this kind of cooperation which is getting the work of the Survey off the ground...Over twice as many sites were recorded in 1968 as in any previous year." Over 420, in 31 counties, by 47 members! - non-member and Survey reports brought the total to 535 - !!! Sites which might have gone down the drain! We are changing that old "slow train through Arkansas" so popular in our youth to "the Arkansas buzz-saw".

Another exciting amateur angle: "Every Wednesday night, members of the Crowley Ridge Chapter gather in Dan Morse's Lab...for about 2½ hours...processing surface collections - and by so doing, learn a little archaeology at the same time." These include some high school students - a fine time to begin.

"...a Big Job. An Important Job. A Necessary Job." - on which they are working is "Making the thousands of people who control the land aware of the existence of Indian sites on their property" and their archaeological importance. In this the members can play an enormous educational part.

Two news items in the March issue are unusual. In a disturbed site someone had excavated a skull, "glued the mandible to the main part of the skull with Duco", then returned and reburied it! The Marmes site in Washington where human skeletal material thought to be some 15,000 years old was found, was to be flooded by a reservoir. So the Army Engineers were called in to build a coffer dam to protect - we have seen elsewhere at a cost of \$750,000. Well, it busted, as the reservoir filled. "The Marmes site is now under several hundred feet of water!"

For \$1.00 you will want to send for INDIANS OF ARKANSAS and WHAT IS ARCHAEOLOGY, by McGimsey and Davis - first of the Survey's POPULAR SERIES and well illustrated. Address Arkansas Archaeological Survey, Coordinating Office, University of Arkansas Museum, Fayetteville, Ark. 72701. (We are glad to see a good many of our members in their membership lists, and people from many states and even Germany.)

COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY: SOUTHWESTERN LORE is published quarterly, with excellent papers on Colorado archaeology, and book reviews. The June 1968 issue devotes much space to Paleo evidence - several thousand artifacts were recovered at the famous Lindenmeier site, including choppers. Editor James J. Hester, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80302, membership \$3.00.

## ROUND STONE BALLS

These are found widely over the world, and sometimes proposed as bolas - 3 balls tied together at some distance apart for throwing at and entangling the legs of game. They seem to be known only in South America and the Arctic, for a proven fact. The "bola perida" of South America is a single stone on a shorter cord, thus resembling a sling, and can be thrown great distances. The horse greatly increased the utility of the bola in South America, as whirling the bola plus the full speed of the horse made great distances possible. Darwin relates that, snagging a bush, he nearly came a cropper and the Gauchos roared that he was the first ever to catch himself with a bola.

## LIVE ARCHAEOLOGY

Primitive cultures of today are being destroyed as rapidly as the dead cultures of archaeology and swept helplessly into the current mainstream - though we have little idea where it is going, or if it will last like the "closer to earth" cultures. We are, of course, trying to preserve endangered animal species in zoos. The Polynesian Cultural Center in Honolulu is a miniature representation of the whole of Polynesia, with families from Samoa, Fiji, Tahiti, Tonga, Maori-New Zealand and Hawaii living in small authentic native villages. Man in a zoo - but wait until the Supreme Court hears about it! (A fruit company tried to keep one island as a safe "game refuge" for Hawaiians, free from the contaminating outside, but the natives free to come and go, well schooled, etc. But when Hawaii sought statehood one busybody Uncle Samuel ruled that his long, red tape must have precedence over all anthropological, ethnological, humanitarian, intelligent, ideal considerations - the haven for the lost must go.)

## CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter meets at 7:30<sup>PM</sup> on the 1st Thursday of each month in Room 213, Reid Hall, Samford University. Mrs. John Bradshaw very interestingly entertained the April meeting with a slide illustrated discussion on "Indians of Atmore". At the May meeting, Mr. Donald Hartman, instructor at Berry High School, who spent many years in the vicinity of Mexico City, will speak on "The Mayan Indian".

The Pastfinders, Birmingham Chapter Ladies' Auxiliary, held their April meeting in the home of Mrs. Donald C. Beatty, where Mr. Beatty, who mapped the Amazon for the Smithsonian Institution in 1929, spoke on "Amazon Artifacts" and displayed his extensive collection of artifacts of the Jivaro Indians.

Choccolocco Chapter meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Reagar Museum in Anniston. Mr. Jack Boozer was the speaker at the March meeting, on the subject of "Early Indian History of This Area". At the April meeting, Dr. A. G. Long Jr., Marshall County Chapter, will give a lecture on "Anthropology". The Chapter is planning a special workshop meeting in the near future.

Choctawhatchee Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Houston County Memorial Library, Dothan. Mr. C. C. Hataway of Brundidge will be the featured speaker at the March meeting.

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at City Hall Auditorium, Cullman. The 48 members present at the March meeting greatly enjoyed the University of Nebraska film "The Early Hunters". Dr. E. M. Lindsey, Nocalula Chapter, will show slides and discuss some very good sites in Europe. A Chapter committee has been appointed to work with local organizations on the formation of a museum.

Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Madison County Court House. Dr. Walter B. Jones, former State Geologist, was the speaker at the March meeting, discussing "The Flint Industry in the Tennessee Valley". At the April meeting, Mr. A. W. Beinlich Jr., Muscle Shoals Chapter, will speak on "Pottery".



Morgan-Limestone Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Decatur City Hall. Dr. Bert Hayes, Athens College Professor, spoke to the April meeting on "Historical Geography of Palestine", showing slides covering areas surrounding Palestine which played important parts in the development of man. At the May meeting, Mr. Read Stowe, supervisor of the State Society's digs last summer, will show slides and artifacts in a "Review of the 1968 Summer Dig Findings".

Noccalula Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 1st Thursday of each month at Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. Mr. O. Houston Wright, Huntsville Chapter, gave a fine discussion on "Flaking Techniques" at the April meeting. Work has been resumed on the Chapter's Horsepens 40 Project, and preliminary work is under way on the Coosa Time Tunnel week long celebration set for July 4. Chapter President Bill Ashley's 14 year old son Scott, and Chapter member Bud Ford, also 14, were joint winners of 1st Place in the Gaston School Science Fair with a diorama and report on Horsepens 40 history.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

##### NEW MEMBERS DURING APRIL:

Mrs. Dolly Meshejian, 1736 Mountain Woods Circle, Birmingham, Ala. 35216  
Dr. Thomas C. Peterson, 1039 Forrest Ave., Gadsden, Ala. 35901 (Family)  
Stephen Sudia Jr., 112-A Corbin Ave., Jersey City, N.J. 07306  
Walker College Library, Jasper, Ala. 35501

##### BAD ADDRESS: (Need help from someone over Auburn way)

Dr. Elizabeth Cahoon, formerly 835 N. Gay, Auburn, Ala. 36830

X AND OUT: Membership dues are now delinquent for 1969. An X on the mailing label of this issue of the Newsletter means we must delete your name from the membership and mailing list until we are notified your 1969 dues are paid.

1968 BIRMINGHAM MAN OF THE YEAR: We are delighted to pass on the news that our good State Society member, William M. Spencer, who is also Treasurer and Counsel of our Archaeological Research Association of Alabama, Inc., was elected to the high honor of designation as Man of the Year for Birmingham in 1968. In addition to his many civic activities and philanthropies, he is Director of the Birmingham Museum of Art, where our Annual Meetings have been held several times in recent years, and we are certain our membership over the State will join with us in congratulating Bill on this earned reward for his unselfish service to Birmingham and Alabama.

SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY: With this issue of the Newsletter, it is a privilege to include an invitation to our membership to join this outstanding national archaeological organization. Those of us who already belong to the SAA know the excellence of their 2 fine publications, AMERICAN ANTIQUITY and MEMOIRS OF THE SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY, and we hope others will take advantage of this opportunity to benefit from the many advantages which membership will enable them to enjoy.

Mary (Mrs. Kenneth) Peters writes rather disturbingly from El Paso: "We almost quarrel over who is going to read STONES & BONES first. It is a wonderful publication and an unusual one, we feel." Nice people, please! - unstaple it and devour page-exchange-wise - we like you too.

Editor Dave DeJarnette thanks JOURNAL contributors - but greedily asks for more papers. The December 1968 issue we thought looked refreshingly like "archaeology tomorrow".

Dick Humbard calls our attention to a FORD TIMES article about a Texas cave long sealed discovered when core drilling encountered empty space at 33 feet. Bones of woolly mammoth, American camel and dire wolf were discovered. Geologists, paleontologists and spelunkers were mentioned - nary an archaeologist. Elaborately developed, there is

even "music synchronized with the elaborate lighting" - must even a troglodyte be haunted in his lair by the stuff, where only "absolute silence" used to be?

MARK YOUR ARTIFACTS CORRECTLY: Especially for the benefit of the many new members who have joined the State Society since the listing was last published in our May 1968 issue, we are again giving below the prefix symbols for Alabama counties recommended by the University of Alabama Archaeological Survey in their system of archaeological identification. After recording your site number and location on a topo map which will remain available to others indefinitely, your artifacts should be marked in indelible ink dovered with lacquer or colorless nail polish, showing the county prefix and your site number, then your initials. The first letter of the county prefix symbol is upper case, and the second letter lower case. This procedure fixes the source of your artifacts for all time, and adds immeasurably to their scientific worth.

Autauga - - - Au	Conecuh - - - Cc	Houston - - - Ho	Morgan - - - - Mg
Baldwin - - - Ba	Coosa - - - - Cs	Jackson - - - Ja	Perry - - - - Pe
Barbour - - - Br	Covington - - - Cv	Jefferson - - - Je	Pickens - - - Pi
Bibb - - - - Bb	Crenshaw - - - Cr	Lamar - - - - Lr	Pike - - - - - Pk
Blount - - - - Bt	Cullman - - - Cu	Lauderdale - - Lu	Randolph - - - Ra
Bullock - - - Bk	Dale - - - - - Da	Lawrence - - - La	Russell - - - Ru
Butler - - - - Bu	Dallas - - - - Ds	Lee - - - - - Le	St. Clair - - - Sc
Calhoun - - - Ca	DeKalb - - - - Dk	Limestone - - - Li	Shelby - - - - Sh
Chambers - - - Ch	Elmore - - - - Ee	Lowndes - - - - Lo	Sumter - - - - Su
Cherokee - - - Ce	Escambia - - - Es	Macon - - - - Mc	Talladega - - - Ta
Chilton - - - Cn	Etowah - - - - Et	Madison - - - Ma	Tallapoosa - - Tp
Choctaw - - - Cw	Fayette - - - Fa	Marengo - - - Mo	Tuscaloosa - - Tu
Clarke - - - - Ck	Franklin - - - Fr	Marion - - - - Mr	Walker - - - - Wa
Clay - - - - - Cy	Geneva - - - - Ge	Marshall - - - Ms	Washington - - Wn
Cleburne - - - Cb	Greene - - - - Gr	Mobile - - - - Mo	Wilcox - - - - Wx
Coffee - - - - Co	Hale - - - - - Ha	Monroe - - - - Mn	Winston - - - Wi
Colbert - - - Ct	Henry - - - - He	Montgomery - - My	

WE: Since we are all in this canoe together, WE don't particularly enjoy reminding US continually about the artifacts WE have been overlooking. But we feel it our bounden duty to mention that the Harris-Roberts team have 47 categories of tools on unshaped FLAKES ALONE from one of their sites. How many of these do you suppose have been reported, or maybe even picked up? They would, and we hope will, support a major paper - the one small paper we have reported on unshaped flake tools (in the TENNESSEE JOURNAL 14 years ago) aroused interest as far as Paris and Bolivia.

WHERE ARE WE? "The commonest tool type of the Oldowan culture is a crude chopper, varying from about the dimensions of a ping-pong ball to that of a croquet ball" - and made on pebbles, says Leakey. He could have been describing the Lively Complex, Ala.

THE JIVARO GREAT TOE we had missed in concentration on their gentle art of head shrinking. It stands out at an angle from the other toes - as in the ape, Neanderthal Man, Chancelade Man (which Quatrefages and Hamy considered a Cro-Magnon type). We have a young friend with this characteristic. (Yes, he wears shoes.)

HEN OR EGG? We were reading that the ancestors of man "adopted the erect posture and began experimenting with their hands". We sort of wonder if the erect posture adopted this creature, and if his hands began experimenting with him.

THE VALUE OF DISPROOF: Boucher de Perthes got so gad-fly persistent with a lifetime spent trying to convince the world that hand axes were made by man and very anciently that - well, Dr. Rigollet decided to dig some himself to DISPROVE de Perthes, and thereby proved him. Gaudry, too, dug, and found "9 hand axes at Abbeville in association with the bones of rhinoceros, hippopotamus and mammoth". So don't kibitz if you don't believe it - disprove it.

## EDUCATIONAL PAGE

### A CHAPTER PROJECT

The chapters comprising the Alabama Archaeological Society often express the desire to engage in interesting and meaningful archaeological projects, and yet find these seemingly simple objectives difficult to attain. Too often, perhaps, discussions and plans center around some type of "field activity" which to be truly effective usually requires a level of physical, financial and diplomatic effort in excess of that available to individual chapters. The result then is usually the participation by a limited number of individuals, representing the various chapters, in a state society sponsored project, which certainly does not effectively use the chapters' capabilities.

Certain criteria seem apparent in an archaeological project suitable for chapter sponsorship:

1. The project should be sufficiently limited in scope to permit its satisfactory completion within a few weeks.
2. There should be little or no cost involved.
3. Ideally the project should not be weather dependent & should permit night work.
4. Talents needed for the project should be available within the chapter, except for consultants.
5. The project should invite and accommodate the maximum number of participants.
6. The project should be relevant both to the chapter area and surrounding areas.

One such project which I believe could make a valuable contribution to the archaeology of the state is a study (laboratory activity) of the frequency and distribution of lithic artifacts (point types) and lithic material (chert, jasper, flint, etc.) for each chapter area. When surveys of the several chapters are combined, a substantial picture of Alabama archaeology could emerge.

This type survey or analysis is routine and conducted in elaborate detail in academic and governmental programs, although usually limited in geographic area. A useful survey of this nature could be accomplished by each chapter by first performing an analysis of an individual's sites, and then preparing a summary. This would constitute a self-supporting block of data. Repeat this for all collections and summarize. A generalized chapter area archaeological picture should develop. When similar data from all chapters is integrated and presented in proper form, an extremely valuable state archaeological survey will have been completed, with no great effort by any one individual or chapter. The survey could proceed by:

1. Utilizing EXISTING "point type books" and related publications of this state and nearby states.
2. Identifying EXISTING artifact types (names) and materials.
3. Taking physical measurements (length, width, weight, etc.).
4. Listing total quantities of artifacts by the above factors, both typologically & non-typologically identifiable; listing number of bases and tips, etc.
5. Photographing representative examples.
6. Listing any and all other information available.
7. Summarizing by sites to establish chapter summary. It is not necessary nor desirable to list sites by exact locations, county occurrence being sufficient.
8. Preparing the BASIC data in a form suitable for exchange with other chapters and individuals.

In making a survey similar to that described above, it is not necessary to reduce the data nor make interpretations. Although everyone will want to make and present interpretations, the success of a chapter project will be MEASURED in the COMPREHENSIVENESS, COMPLETENESS and ACCURACY of the BASIC DATA. Evaluations and conclusions should be completely separate.

B. Bart Henson, Huntsville Chapter



# SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

T. Patrick Culbert, Secretary

Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona

Tucson, Arizona 85721

Since you have an active interest in archaeology, I am pleased to extend to you an invitation to join the Society for American Archaeology.

Founded in 1935, the Society is the only national organization devoted to the publication of archaeological findings from the entire Western Hemisphere. By disseminating the latest research results and current advances in archaeological theory and method, we hope to stimulate the progress of scientific archaeology. Everyone interested in such progress, whatever his vocation or the area of his archaeological research, is welcomed to membership.

For the annual dues of \$10.00, members receive subscription to the quarterly journal American Antiquity, and to the Memoirs of the Society for American Archaeology, a series of longer and more detailed reports issued one or more times yearly. Members are also eligible to attend and participate in the annual meetings of the Society held each year during the first week in May. The 1969 annual meetings will be held in Milwaukee; the 1970 meetings, in Mexico City.

If you would like to join the Society for American Archaeology, you may write to me for a membership application.

Yours truly,

*T. Patrick Culbert*

T. Patrick Culbert  
Secretary, SAA  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona 85721



## 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.



The coupon below may be used EITHER to APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP in the Society, or for the PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. Please be sure that your name and address are CLEARLY entered, and that checkmarks appear in applicable blanks!

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

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