Alabama Archaeological Society

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA P.O. BOX 6135, UNIVERSITY, AL. 35486
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NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

8-11-73

CLARKE COUNTY'S FASCINATING POTENTIAL

An archaeological survey of Clarke County and adjacent areas is now being conducted jointly by the Archaeological Research Association of Alabama Inc., the Alabama Historical Commission and the University of South Alabama. Under the direction of Mr. N. Read Stowe, Mr. Dale Hardin is supervising the efforts of University of South Alabama students enrolled in the Summer Field School in Archaeology. The survey is unveiling the locations of Indian, Colonial and Civil War sites. South Alabama students are working in teams to investigate specific aspects of the archaeology of the area.

Student John Traudt and others are surveying the Salt Creek area, a site of Indian occupancy and a Civil War salt works. Likewise, Marvin Hoyt and companions are seeking to discover the locations of the many fortifications built during the Creek War. Students aiding in the location of Colonial American sites and Indian sites are Glen Allen, Hope Bokus, Dan Jenkins, Pam Seegars and Butch Turner. Laboratory work is under the supervision of Sedjenane Hardin. Already, this group has discovered Big Sandy and other Early Archaic projectile points and uniface tools in the Claiborne Bluff area. This find probably represents the southernmost known extent of Early Archaic points in Alabama. The archaeological promise of this area is great in that many equally exciting finds are expected as work continues. Field work presently is being directed toward the Salt Creek area, the Creek War Fort sites, a flint quarry site and the Claiborne area.

(N. Read Stowe, University of South Alabama)

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL FUND DRIVE

From the above preliminary report on one archaeological investigation which the Research Association is co-sponsoring, you will understand that funds contributed to finance such operations are actually being put to work, and we are most hopeful that an outstanding development might occur so as to be reported next month. In the meantime, we are happy to be able to report the following donors during July:

Huntsville Chapter, AAS, returns as a financial supporter, making its SEVENTH donation over the years we have engaged in summer excavations.

Mrs. Jack McSpadden, Birmingham, exhibits her confidence in our aim to accomplish worthwhile archaeological digs, making her TWELFTH consecutive gift.

C. van den Berg, Birmingham, also making a TWELFTH consecutive generous contribution, gives us confidence that our goal will be reached.

LIBERTY NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., Birmingham, one of our highly valued business donors, continues to support us generously for the THIRTEENTH year.

During August, we are trusting that other Chapters and individual members, as

well as business concerns, will join those listed above and prepare us for the expenditures we are facing. Just clip the coupon at the bottom of the inside back cover of this or some previous issue of your Newsletter, attach your check, and mail it as directed, won't you, please?

A FIELD GUIDE TO SOUTHEASTERN POINT TYPES

This newly published book, titled as above, is designed to serve as a convenient field guide and as a complement to HANDBOOK OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, PART I, POINT TYPES. It is an alphabetical arrangement of point types by cultures, and contains 108 different point type illustrations by David C. Hulse, and a general description of each type. Charts illustrating nomenclature and approximate dates of the cultural sequence in the southeast are included. The book is authored by James W. Cambron. For copies, send \$2.00 per copy to James W. Cambron, 211 - 7th Ave N.W., Decatur, Alabama 35601.

SOME THOUGHTS ON AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BILL

A Program for Archaeology in the State of Alabama must be well planned, adequately financed and have goals to the future as well as the present; also:

It should not be under the domination of any one institution, agency or special interest group.

It must be adequately funded.

It must meet standards necessary to qualify for State and Federal funds.

Accounting for the expenditure of all funds must be required.

The position of Archaeologist must be by qualifications of training and experience which are specifically outlined.

There should be an advisory board made up of representatives from all over the State, which Board takes an active part and has a voice in actions planned and taken.

There should be a definite outline for the organization, facilities required, location, duties, records and reports.

The program should coordinate and seek the cooperation of the whole State. It should not interrupt or in any way interfere with accredited projects or work now in progress in the State.

The program should be a credit to our State and reflect the work as well as the cooperation of the amateurs and professionals. It is not only for us today, but more importantly for the future generations that we should labor and make ourselves heard!

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

FORT MIMS PROGRESS REPORT

Phase I excavations of this University of South Alabama - Alabama Historical Commission project, were completed at Fort Mims on July 13, 1973. During the last 4 months more than 100 ten-by-ten-foot squares have been excavated. Features unearthed at the site include debris and post molds associated with the stockade and interior structures. Infrared aerial photos were taken of the site. These photos disclosed 2 man-made features to the east of the Fort. Test excavations in the area of the man-made disturbance failed to disclose the nature of the features.

During the first 2 weeks of July, the Deep South Girl Scout "Archy" program participated in the Fort Mims excavation. Mrs. E. P. McMillan Jr. was Girl Scout Director on the dig, and Brenda McMillan was Assistant Director. Girl Scouts who participated are: Mary Anderson, Santa Rosa, Calif.; Patricia Bolling, Gonzales, La.; Denise Bolton, Dickinson, Ala.; Anne Brook, Mobile, Ala.; Becky Gates, Grove Hill, Ala.; Edith Jones, Chalmetti, La.; Tina McMillan, Fulton, Ala.; Jean Niles, Oneonta, N.Y.; Carolyn Steen, Mobile, Ala.; Peggiann Wilkie, Covington, La.; Becky Williams, Grove Hill, Ala.; Stephanie Wimberly, Leesville, La.; and Nancy Winstanley,

Birmingham, Ala.

Future plans at Fort Mims include a proposal to the Alabama Historical Commission for additional funds for excavation and to rebuild a portion of the Fort. It is also hoped that a museum will be constructed at the site.

(N. Read Stowe, University of South Alabama)

ARE YOU REPRESENTED?

When the Alabama Legislature created the Alabama Historical Commission in 1966, it provided for a Board of Advisors. The members of the Board, who serve without pay, "advise the Commission on matters relating to the historic, architectural and archaeological assets of Alabama and assist the Commission in compiling and maintaining an inventory of such structures and sites."

For appointment to the Board, the Society or Institution should submit a request and the name of the nominee to the Chairman of the Commission, Milo B. Howard Jr., Archives and History Building, Montgomery, Ala. 36104. Organizations eligible for representation include any local or regional historical, heritage and landmark society, certain authorities, historic development commissions, regional planning commissions, paternal and patriotic groups, professional and trade associations, and accredited 4-year colleges and universities. "All regional tarchaeological societies

are encouraged to request representation."

"The Board of Advisor members serve as liasons between the Historical Commission and the historic, civic and governmental community, keeping the Commission informed on local preservation activities with letters, newspaper clippings, notes, and other communications. Frequent reporting by the Board informs the Commission of proposed, in-progress and completed restoration of private residences, commercial buildings and public landmarks. Many landmarks have been located by advisors and noted on the Statewide Plan of Historic Preservation and numerous structures have been saved from demolition by Board members who have inspected county, state and federal road projects to see if any historic structures or sites were endangered. Members of the Advisory Board may recommend priorities for preservation and nomination to the Alabama Statewide Plan and the National Register of Historic Places. These landmarks may be located in the county where the advisor lives or be related to his professional interests." (The quotes and information taken from the Program, 6th Annual Preservation Conference, Montgomery, July 15-16, 1973.)

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN TUSCALOOSA ACTIVITY

Two archaeological crews are in the field this summer from the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Mr. David L. DeJarnette is Director and Jerry Nielsen, Staff Archaeologist, is assistant.

Dr. John Walthall is Field Supervisor of a salvage project at the present end of Interstate 10, on the east side of Mobile Bay. Two Fort Walton shell mounds are in the path of the highway. At one, there are several shell layers with a probable Historic Indian habitation at the top. Work will continue through August.

Ned Jenkins is Crew Chief of the second project which has just started and also is salvage. A Late Woodland site, north of Birmingham, will be destroyed by West Jefferson Steam Plant which is being built by the Alabama Power Company.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

CULLMAN CHAPTER SALVAGE WORK

On Saturday, June 23, 1973, a salvage excavation project was conducted by the Cullman County Archaeological Society at the area where the Scottish Inn is being constructed (intersection of Highway 278 and Interstate-65). An east-west trench was laid off in 4 by 4-foot squares, to be excavated in 6 inch levels. A total of 7

squares was opened with a total of 9 levels being worked, the deepest level reaching 12 inches. The general cultural affiliations appear to have been Late Archaic to Early Woodland. No pottery has been recovered. At present, one feature was located in square 4-W. It appeared to be a fire pit approximately 14 inches in diameter and approximately 5 inches deep. It was located 2 inches below the present day surface. Several flint chips and the basal end of a projectile point was in association. Projectile points being recovered so far have been: Palmer, Gary, Mulberry Creek, Mc-Intire and Provisional 1 Stemmed. Excavation is continuing despite immediate destruction pending. I would like to thank the following for their efforts in this excavation: Lynn Spenser, Paul Thompson, Eulis King, Keith Dye, Randy Nix, Jeff Boyd and Mike Wells.

Of all the destruction of archaeological sites in Cullman by urban renewals, Highway constructions, industry, flooding and general progress, this is the first time that Cullman has tried to recover a part of its history. Some day, all of our prehistory will be gone, and all that will be left will be questions unanswered.

(Howard King, Cullman County Chapter)

WANTED!

Information and photographs for a History of Alabama Pharmacy. This book is still being edited by the History Study Committee of the Alabama Pharmaceutical Association. They especially want information (including human interest stories) about drug stores that have operated 50 years or more. This would include dates when originally established, names of owners and changes in location and firm names. Photographs might cover early scenes or antiquated drug store items such as old bottles, cabinets, hand decorated safes or unique fixtures.

Mail any contributions to the Chairman, James R. Kuykendall, 706 Alabama Ave., N., Fort Payne, Ala. 35967 prior to August 15.

FEDERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL BILL

By the time you receive this Newsletter, the hearings will have been held for H.R. 296 and related bills. July 30-31 are the dates set by the House Subcommittee on Parks & Recreation of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, for the hearings on the legislation for preservation and salvage of archaeological and historical data. Witnesses scheduled to appear include: Charles R. McGimsey III, Arkansas, (Society for American Archaeology); Raymond H. Thompson, Arizona (Committee for Recovery of Archaeological Remains); Charles E. Cleland, Michigan (Society for Historical Archaeology); Mack S. Pritchard, Tennessee; Richard D. Daugherty, Washington; Robert Williams, Florida; Robert L. Stephenson, South Carolina; Carl H. Chapman, Missouri. While this legislation will make more funds available, and cover a wider area of activity for salvage archaeology, the individual States will have to meet specific federal requirements. This is just one of the reasons it is becoming more important every day, that Alabama have a well planned and adequate archaeological program which will be able to take advantage, to the fullest degree, of these feder-(Above 2 articles by Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter) al funds.

"SHOW ME" ARCHAEOLOGY

Yes, now you can be shown nearly all of Missouri's archaeology. Randy Cottier is the compilor of A SELECTED BIOGRAPHY OF MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGY. It's the No. 10 Paper of the Missouri Archaeological Society Research Series published by the University of Missouri and the Missouri State Park Board, and it is very thorough. It references information from 1814 to 1971 and has both a General Bibliography and several sectional areas very well covered. The 34 pages, including maps, cover special sites, tribes, mounds, points, burials, etc., and just reading the titles in this bibliography is exciting. The price is not shown, but would appear to be in the

neighborhood of \$1.50 and can be obtained by writing to Missouri Archaeological Society, 15 Switzler Hall, University of Missouri (P O Box 958), Columbia, Mo. 65201. Postage is Prepaid.

AERIAL PHOTO INTERPRETATIONS IN CLASSIFYING AND MAPPING SOILS

This handbook is listed in the USDA publication SOIL CONSERVATION, March 1973, page 182. Written by the Soil Survey Staff of the Soil Conservation Service in 1966, it was reprinted in 1973. It outlines the procedures for conducting a standard aerial survey and for using photo interpretations in making soil surveys. USDA Agriculture Handbook 294, 89 pages, illustrated, \$1.50. Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

A SOLUTION?

In a notice about the "big meeting" (IX International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, see STONES & BONES, July 1973, page 6), Ron Miller states: "They are working very hard to make this a successful meeting. The only thing that we can see that might mar the proceeding would be infiltration attempts by the anti-American groups. We would suggest having an old-fashioned Sgt. at Arms and staff throw them out." (from W.A.S. Newsletter, No. 7, World Archaeological Society, dues \$5.00 a year to Ron Miller, Director, W.A.S., Lake Road, 65-48, Star Rt. 140-D, Hollister, Mo. 65672) (Above 2 articles by Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

MARK YOUR ARTIFACTS CORRECTLY

For the benefit of our many new members, and to make it unnecessary for others to go so far back in their Newsletter files, we are supplying below the prefix symbols for Alabama counties recommended by the University of Alabama Archaeological Survey in a system of archaeological identification. After recording your site number and location on a topo map which will remain available to others indefinitely, the artifacts should be marked in indelible ink covered with lacquer or colorless nail polish, showing the county prefix and your site number, then your initials. The first letter of the county prefix is upper case, and the second letter lower case. This procedure fixes the source of your artifacts for all time, and adds immeasureably to their scientific worth:

Autauga Au	Conecuh Co	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	

Artifacts should, of course, be kept separately by site, and so stored as to be always availablengafe from loss by any of a variety of means.

INTERESTING QUOTES

THE INTERAMERICAN, Newsletter of the Instituto Interamericano, Dr. Carl B. Compton, Director, provides the following items, from Vol. 20, No. 3, May-June, 1973:

"THE LIBRARY MURDER CASE: The New York Public Library is one of the 4 greatest research libraries in the world. It used to be that anyone except young children could just walk in and read from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. We have known several persons who got an excellent and liberal education in this manner. Now, because of rising costs and inadequate financing it is almost impossible even for well-known scholars to use the library collections. This is a catastrophe even for those who cannot get to New York. For further details see The New York Review, May 3, 1973, pp. 31 ff. This also gives some of the history of the great library."

"STANDING PEACHTREE was an Indian village which is now well within the city of Atlanta, Georgia. In 1812 white settlers came in, operated a ferry across the Chattahoochee river, built log homes, a chapel, grist mill, etc. They also established a cemetery. Today, this little cemetery has been vandalized, graves dug into, monuments broken, stone walls torn down and the place is covered with litter. Margaret Perryman Smith, F.I.I. of Atlanta has been trying for years to get someone to rehabilitate and preserve the cemetery in which many of the original settlers are buried. If anyone else is interested in this, letters to the Georgia Historical Commission might carry some weight. Or write to us, we'll pass letters on to the appropriate authorities. This seems a worthy cause, to us."

"RED POWER On The Rio Grande: The Native Revolution of 1680 by Franklin Folsom 144 pp., glossary, index, bibliography...It is a history of a successful Indian revolution against the Spanish from the Indian point of view. However, the Indians did not leave any written records and those of the Spanish are grossly prejudiced. Folsom draws on many sources - historians, anthropologists and even Indian legends... We found the book very interesting and informative. Follett Publishing Co., Chicago, 1973, \$5.95."

CHAPTER NEWS

Choccolocco Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Regar Museum, Anniston. A new Vice President, G. Brown O'Quinn, was elected at the June meeting. The July meeting program will be Dr. Leakey's film: "Dawn of Man".

Cullman County Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at Cullman City Hall. At the July Board Meeting, the date of December 8 was set for the State Society's Annual Meeting which the Chapter is hosting, and committees were named to cover various areas of the operation. Mr. Ed Luttges, Huntsville, will be the speaker at the July meeting, on "Lithic Materials".

Huntsville Chapter meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Twickenham Hotel Building. Mr. Houston Wright, Huntsville Chapter member, will speak to the July meeting on "The History of Pottery in the Americas".

NEW MEMBERS DURING JULY

Milton L. Graves, Route 1 Box 44, Auburn, Ala. 36830
Lewis H. Larson Jr., Dept. Soc. & Anth., W. Georgia College, Carrollton, Ga. 30117
Stancel R. Lee, Route 1, Samantha, Ala. 35482
Mr. & Mrs. John F. McCrary, 935-46th St. W., Birmingham, Ala. 35208 (Family)
Chris S. McLaughlin, 351 Robert E. Lee Ave. S.W., Leeds, Ala. 35094
Paul L. McLaughlin, 541 Sims Ave., Leeds, Ala. 35094 (Family)
Jerry J. Nielson, Mound State Monument, Moundville, Ala. 35474
Craig T. Sheldon Jr., Dept. Soc. & Anth., W. Ga. College, Carrollton, Ga. 30117 (Fam.)
Mr. & Mrs. Fred D. Waites Sr., Route 3 Box 437, Wetumpka, Ala. 36092 (Family)
S. Blake Yates, 903 Boddie Lane, Auburn, Ala. 36830

THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

The Society needs and welcomes as members, all persons whose ideals are in accord with the objectives set forth above. Active members receive the JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members and their activities, also State, national and worldwide events of archaeological importance.

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Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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