

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

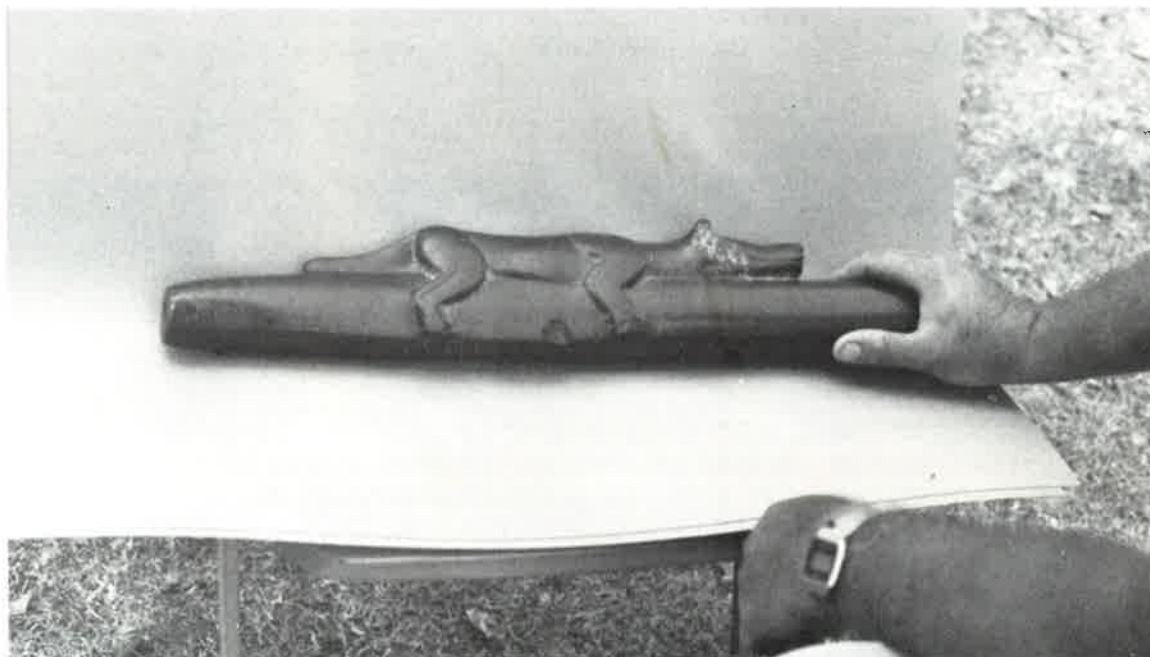
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Huntsville, Alabama 35803

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BOOK REVIEW



The History of the Blind Wolf Pipe. By H. C. Brehm and Travis Smotherman. Available from Mini-Histories; 5311 Indiana Avenue; Nashville, Tennessee 37209, for \$3 plus \$.75 for postage.

This is the story, and a very interesting one, of a steatite effigy pipe weighing 11 pounds and 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ in length, showing a well stylized wolf in full form. Brehm relates how he first heard of the pipe, his later follow-up in tracking down and locating the pipe and then obtaining the history of when it was found and where it came from. Many close-up photos are included. There is also a footnote with photos describing other similar pipes. We recommend this booklet.

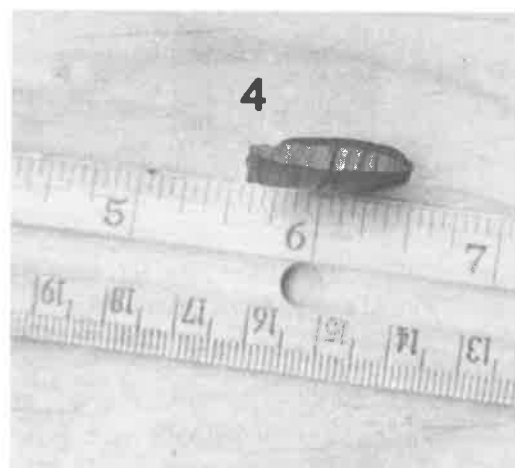
The Editors

September 1984

The Journal of Alabama Archaeology, Volume VI - Number 1— June 1960, contains an article called "My Embarrassing Blade" by Daniel W. Josselyn; which I read and enjoyed at that time and several times since. Since that time I have looked for blades and blade-cores.

While in El Salvador, Central America, a few years ago I acquired the blades and cores that are shown in the pictures below; except for the small core which I found recently near Prattville, Alabama.

Tony Bulger
P. O. Box 215
Prattville, AL 36067



1. Lamellar Blade, El Salvador. 2. Blade Core, El Salvador. 3. Lamellar Core, El Salvador. 4. Tony Bulger's Blade Core, Central Alabama.

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

The speaker at the July Huntsville Chapter meeting was Larry Beane, a Park Ranger from Russell Cave National Monument. Larry brought with him the film "The Early Americans"; he also gave a demonstration of flint-knapping and showed how some of the other Indian tools may have been used.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Arts Council Conference Room, Von Braun Civic Center. For more information call Program Chairman Ken Helms at 539-0939. The next chapter meeting will be September 18. Tim Mistovich will present the September program, a discussion of underwater archaeology and an update on archaeological activities throughout the state.

Dorothy Luke

Tuscaloosa Chapter

The Tuscaloosa Chapter's August meeting was held at the town library. Guest speaker was Mr. Charles Hubbert. Mr. Hubbert showed slides and spoke about Paleo Indians of Alabama. Ms. JoAnn King was elected Chapter Treasurer.

The next chapter meeting will be a picnic on Sunday, September 9, at Mound State Monument in Moundville, Alabama. Ms. Betsy Jones from the Office of Archaeological Research will give a pottery-making demonstration, and Richard Walling will give a tour of the OAR research lab. All who attend will be given the opportunity to participate in the excavation now going on in the park. Any Alabama Archaeological Society member in the state is welcome to attend. The picnic will start at 10 a.m. and go on to 4 p.m. In case of rain, the meeting will be held on the following Sunday. Be sure to bring a lunch and work clothes.

The design on this T-shirt is from a stone disc found at Moundville, Alabama; the disc is now located in the Peabody Museum, Harvard University. You hear so much about the famous Rattlesnake Disc from Moundville - but hardly anything about this one. I selected this disc emblem because I thought it was time that this stone disc got some recognition also. Jack Wilson, another member of the Tuscaloosa Chapter, had the emblem design put on two lightweight jackets. A picture of this stone disc can be seen in the book *Sun Circles and Human Hands*.

Bill Adkison



PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

MAN IN THE NORTHEAST - a limited-time offer for back numbers. The remaining back file of MAN IN THE NORTHEAST is being sold at 50% off the retail price. The set consists of the following numbers at the discount price shown:

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The Editors

SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

THE PREHISTORY OF NORTH CAROLINA: An Archaeological Symposium - now available from Archaeology Branch; NC Division of Archives and History; 109 East Jones Street; Raleigh, North Carolina 27611. ISBN: 0-86526-225-X - \$6 plus \$1 postage and handling for first book ordered and \$.25 for each additional book.

This book is a compilation of the papers presented at a symposium on the prehistory of North Carolina conducted by four of North Carolina's leading archaeologists in the spring of 1980. Their presentations focused on the history of research, cultural chronologies, settlement patterns, and future research directions for each of the three major physiographic regions of the state: Coastal Plain (David S. Phelps), Piedmont (H. Trawick Ward), and Mountains (Burton L. Purrington).

The Editors

NUMBERS AND MEASURES IN THE EARLIEST WRITTEN RECORDS

As early as the fourth millenium B.C., proto-Sumerian and proto-Elamite scribes had well-developed systems of numbers and measures. They included precursors of our own decimal system.

Among the world's earliest written records are inscriptions on clay tablets unearthed in Iraq and Iran, in particular at the sites of two great ancient cities: the early Sumerian city Uruk and the early Elamite city Susa. The inscriptions, mainly accounts and receipts of various kinds, were written near the end of the fourth millennium B.C. and soon afterward. After more than 100 years of scholarly effort, all the systems of numbers and measures in these "proto-literate" texts have now been identified. They turn out to include precursors of the later Sumero-Babylonian sexagesimal number system (counting in 10's and 60's) and of our own decimal system (counting only in 10's). In addition they include a previously unrecognized system of capacity measures, used in all accounts dealing with barley, which in this early period was both the basic food grain and the currency.

(From an Article by Joran Friberg in Scientific American, February 1984)

The Editors

PIGMENT PROCESSING FOR CAVE PAINTINGS

Some 17,000 years ago, Stone Age artists filled the walls and ceilings of the Lascaux cave in France with about 600 magnificent, lifelike drawings of horses, bulls, deer and other animals. Studies since the cave was accidentally discovered 40 years ago have revealed a great deal about how these artists worked. Researchers have found the stone lamps that provided light for the artists, the scaffolding that allowed them to work on rock faces normally out of reach and the palettes that held the painters' pigments. Recent research has focused on the minerals that were ground up to produce the fine, powdered pigments used for the cave drawings. The results show that the artists were remarkably sophisticated in their use of local minerals, grinding and mixing them to produce a wide range of colors, especially yellows, reds and blacks.

Pamela B. Vandiver and William D. Kingery of the Ceramics and Glass Laboratory at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology used a variety of materials science techniques, such as scanning electron microscopy and several X-ray methods, to characterize the microstructure and composition of the pigments used. Kingery says, "Prior to our work, there had not been any work on examining the microstructure of the pigment materials in terms of their mineral sources nor of the manganese- and iron-containing natural minerals that might have been used as pigments".

Vandiver and Kingery found that the artists could have obtained a full range of colors from mineral deposits within 15 kilometers of the cave. "I was surprised at the wide variety of natural pigment colors that were immediately accessible to the painters at Lascaux", says Kingery. Moreover, the pigment particles displayed a finer particle size and more diverse composition than found in the mineral deposits. This means that the artists probably milled and mixed the various minerals, says Vandiver. Hematite (iron oxide) for red pigments were particularly important source materials.

Vandiver also discovered significant microscopic differences between the red and black pigment minerals. The hematite crystals were platelike, while the manganese oxide crystals were needlelike. These different crystal forms affected how the pigments were used and the type of drawings created. Sticks of the black color, for instance, could be used to draw long, dark lines to outline large objects on wet limestone walls. The cave's 17-foot drawings of bulls are done in this manner. The red color, on the other hand, had to be applied as a thick slurry of water, clay and hematite. Because this color had to be "scrubbed" into the rock to build up a vivid, bright red, only smaller areas could be covered. "You really can't draw a line that's 17 feet long with a clay-hematite mixture", says Vandiver. The red color is a striking feature of the smaller drawings of horses. Kingery summarizes: "I think the natural pigments available had some influence on some characteristics of the drawing techniques".

(Article by Ivars Peterson in Science News, June 2, 1984)

The Editors

NEW MEMBERS

<u>Member</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Zip</u>
Billingsley, Mr. William	(I)	3304 Pembroke Lane, Birmingham, AL	35226
Blake, Mr. Alan	(I)	1735 Clayborne Street, Mandeville, LA	70448
Clemens, Ms. Mary H.	(I)	Route One, Box 279, Dutton, AL	35744
Gilliland, Mr. J. Michael	(I)	Route Four, Box 312, Oneonta, AL	35121
Hildreth, Mr. James W.	(I)	Route Two, Box 275, Kennedy, AL	35574
Huie, Ms. Martha H.	(I)	P. O. Box 489, Scottsboro, AL	35768
Keeley, Mr. Brian L.	(A)	Route Three, Box 316, Theodore, AL	36582
Russell Cave National Monument		Route One, Box 175, Bridgeport, AL	35740
Troy State University		Dothan Library, 304 North Foster Street Dothan, AL	36303

The Huntsville Times

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1984

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Section

Wheeler Refuge Officials Will Crack Down on Relic Seekers

By CHRISTOPHER BELL, Times Staff Writer

DECATUR — Prehistoric antiquities, Indian artifacts and Civil War relics, which are buried along the banks of the Tennessee River on the Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge and other federal lands, are protected under an act of Congress that will soon be enforced in North Alabama.

Thomas Z. Atkeson, manager of the 34,000-acre refuge that extends from Decatur to Huntsville — through Morgan, Limestone and Madison counties — said Wednesday that the Archaeological Resources Protection Act affects all federal property and will now be enforced.

No longer, he said, will arrowhead hunters and hobbyists with metal detectors be allowed on the refuge and Tennessee Valley Authority reservoirs — including the river, Wheeler and Gunterville lakes.

"People have been accustomed through the years to do this," he said. "But no longer will it be allowed."

SOME RESIDENTS of the state's Tennessee Valley have amassed large collections of artifacts, some of which, Atkeson said, "date back 10,000 years."

He said that after TVA lowers the river level in the fall, many people stroll along the bank looking for arrowheads. Portions of the refuge, especially newly plowed areas, are popular with artifact hunters, he added.

TVA tamed the river in 1936 with a series of dams while two years later the refuge, largest along the Mississippi flyway, was created. The next year Atkeson joined the staff.

"There have been some real interesting items found," he said. "This country is rich in Indian artifacts."

Atkeson said relics from the War Between the States, including Minie balls, belt buckles and bullets, are also popular.

He said artifacts that are more than a century old are and have been protected by federal law for a good while. The first such law — the Federal Antiquities Act of 1892 — was enacted in the 19th century.

Its purpose, he said, was to protect villages and other sites of early settlers.

FIVE YEARS AGO the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, which also applies to all federally owned land, was passed.

Atkeson said that while some federal agencies, such as park services, have been enforcing the law which went into effect Feb. 6, neither TVA nor refuge officials have issued citations.

"This affects Redstone Arsenal and any federal land," he said.

Permits will be issued to individuals and groups, including college archaeology students, to dig on federal land, Atkeson said.

The citations call for penalties of up to \$500 and six months in prison upon conviction, he said.

Atkeson said people who happen to be walking along the riverbank, spot an arrowhead or Civil War bullet and pocket the item, won't be affected.

"The law is intended to stop people from digging on federal land for artifacts," he said.

"It isn't intended to stop someone from picking up a coin or fossil," he said. "But if you have a metal detector then we know what you're doing."

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of <i>Journal of Alabama Archaeology</i> Vol. 20-29 each issue	(\$2.50 to Members) \$5.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint, each issue . . .	\$5.00 pp
Special Publication 1 — Fort Mitchell	\$2.00 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at 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 1, Point Types</i>	\$10.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$7.50 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)	\$7.00 pp

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 SEND CHECKS TO: **MR. EUGENE FUTATO, Office of Archaeological Research**
 1 Mound State Monument, Moundville, Alabama 35474

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