

# Alabama Archaeological Society

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

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## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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### WINTER MEETING - 1975

NOV. 22 AND 23, AT MONTGOMERY, ALA. HOST: THE FORT TOULOUSE FOUNDATION. HEADQUARTERS: THE HOLIDAY INN MIDTOWN WHICH IS FIVE BLOCKS FROM THE CAPITOL BUILDING. MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW AND MAIL PREREGISTRATION FORM. PROGRAM COMMITTEE BUSY WITH DETAILS OF PROGRAM. WATCH FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER WHICH WILL INCLUDE ALL THE FINAL DETAILS OF OUR WINTER MEETING.

TIME: The winter meeting this year will be on the non-football-weekend just before the BIG game (Auburn-Alabama). Long range weather forecast: excellent!

PLACE: For our meeting on this eve of the U. S. National Bicentennial what could be more appropriate than the historic city of Montgomery?

While the meeting headquarters will be at the Holiday Inn Midtown, five blocks from the Capitol building, the program itself will be held in the Capitol in the historic House of Representatives Chamber. Those who present papers will be standing very near the bronze star marking the spot where Jefferson Davis took his oath of office!

HOST: Our host organization is the Fort Toulouse Foundation, Mr. John H. Brooks, Jr., President. Fort Toulouse is a showcase example of the interdependence between history and archaeology. An opportunity to visit Fort Toulouse will be included in this our bicentennial meeting.

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### PREREGISTRATION FORM - DETACH AND RETURN TO:

The Fort Toulouse Foundation, Box 231, Montgomery, Alabama 36101

Winter Meeting, Alabama Archaeological Society, November 22-23, 1975

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee for \_\_\_\_\_ people @\$7.00 (includes evening buffet-banquet) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (Make checks payable to the Fort Toulouse Foundation)

OCTOBER · 1975

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER: For a speaker with stature worthy of such an occasion your program committee sought someone of national prominence. Who but Dr. James B. Griffin? Dr. Griffin will be coming to us almost directly from the Eastern States Archaeological Federation meeting where he will have been their main speaker the week preceding our meeting.

Dr. Griffin, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, has also been director and curator of archaeology in the Museum of Anthropology at Ann Arbor since 1946. His special interest in southeastern archaeology is shown in a number of his publications, among which is the landmark "Archaeology of Eastern United States, " (Editor) 1952.

He was the 1957 recipient of the Viking Fund Medal and Award in Anthropology, has served as president of the Society for American Archaeology, president Central States Branch, the American Anthropological Association, vice-president American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has also held high office in a number of international anthropological and archaeological societies.

Dr. Griffin has engaged in extensive field work in the United States and Mexico. He is an authority on northern Eurasian prehistory and has studied Siberian prehistory in the USSR. Bring your children and interested friends and neighbors to hear our distinguished guest.

NECESSITY FOR PREREGISTRATION: Registration fee of \$7.00 includes cost of evening buffet-banquet. Menu: roast beef, fried chicken, shrimp creole, tossed salad, congealed salad, macaroni salad, relish tray, green beans, au gratin potatoes, rolls, butter, assorted fruit tarts, coffee or tea. All this plus Dr. Griffin, plus a meeting in the historic House Chamber, plus tours of Fort Toulouse, State Archives, the Governor's Mansion, and other fascinating spots too numerous to mention.

But you know what? The cook has to know if you're coming. MAIL THE PREREGISTRATION FORM TODAY!

We sincerely hope that everyone will be able to attend the 1975 Winter Meeting of the Alabama Archaeological Society and the buffet-banquet. For those who will be unable to attend the banquet, a registration fee of \$1.00 will be charged to help defray expenses of the meeting.

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PREREGISTRATION FORM  
Mail it in today!

## SCIENTISTS FIND HUMAN DWELLING EVIDENCE AT DIG

Pieces of charcoal about 16,000 years old have been recovered from an archaeological dig near Avella, Pa., producing the earliest evidence of human habitation in the Western hemisphere, according to a Smithsonian Institute official. These recent findings at the Meadowcroft Rockshelter support theories of the Bering Strait migration route between 20,000 and 30,000 B.C. says Dr. James Adovasio, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh. The charcoal and accompanying stone tools and artifacts came from a firepit under a large overhanging rock. The scientists are hopeful of an even earlier date, as another firepit has been located directly below the one just dated.

Excavations at this shelter began in 1973. In these latest excavations, more than 50 cutting artifacts were found and together with the 100 unbladed stone tools found previously, they represent the earliest, largest and most securely dated collection of tools in North and South America.

Because of the number of projectile points, knives and abundance of food bone and the remains of edible plants, scientists have concluded that the rock-shelter was continuously used up until contact with European settlers. Archaeologists have long disputed the dates when Paleo Indians crossed into Alaska and began to migrate to the south. The Avella dig not only tends to substantiate those who say the immigration began between 20,000 and 30,000 B.C. but it also lends credence to the antiquity of several isolated and controversial discoveries in Mexico which date perhaps to about 19,000 B.C., Adovasio said. (Article from the Huntsville Times, July 28, 1975, submitted by Jack Cambron)

## FROM THE PRESERVATION REPORT

Alabama's first permanent capitol has been placed under the jurisdiction of the Alabama Historical Commission by the Alabama Legislature. Cahaba, once a town of 5,000 inhabitants, will be Alabama's 100th addition to the National Register of Historic Places. Located southwest of Selma, very little of the town remains today. A two story brick state house with a copper plated dome was on the square at the end of the avenue leading from the river. Today, all that remains is the avenue and other streets that are maintained by Dallas County. Old signs and historical markers may be seen here and there as well as the ruins of the Methodist Church which was in use until it burned in 1954. As you drive up and down the streets, you will see some artesian wells, one plantation house, the Frambo House, the columns of other mansions, two cemeteries and weekend fishing camps. Preliminary proposals for the development of Cahaba include extensive archaeological projects in the area. The town site included some 400 acres and this area and property across the river was put on the National Register to protect it from channelization projects that could endanger it. Future plans are for an interpretive historical and recreational park at this important Alabama landmark, situated at the confluence of the Alabama and Cahaba rivers.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

### WATCH THE MAILS!!!

The fall Board of Director's Meeting will be held in October, so all of our directors, chapter presidents, and society officers be on the look out for the announcement from our secretary, Rodger Schaefer, so you will know when, where and why!

### ANNOUNCING A NEW PUBLICATION

Special Publication Number 2 of the Texas Archeological Society is now available at a cost of \$5.25 for members, \$6.75 for non-members and \$7.75 for institutions and libraries. This fine new book is entitled "The Bentsen-Clark Site, Red River County, Texas: A Preliminary Report," by Larry D. Banks and Joe Winters.

Bentsen-Clark is a major Caddoan site on the Texas-Oklahoma border and the report covers the results of excavations which revealed eight separate cultural features, the most important being a large burial pit. This is a most worthwhile publication which can be ordered from the Texas Archeological Society, S.M.U., Box 165, Dallas, Texas 75275.

### LESLIE A. WHITE

Leslie A. White, research anthropologist at the University of California, Santa Barbara, died of a heart attack on March 31, 1975, in Lone Pine, Ca, at the age of 75. Prior to joining the UCSB faculty in 1971, White had been visiting professor at San Francisco State University (1970-71) and on the faculty at the University of Michigan from 1930 to 1970. He also held summer and visiting professorships at Chicago, Columbia, Yale, Harvard, California-Berkeley and Rice. White took his BA and MA at Columbia and his PhD at Chicago in 1927. He won the Viking Medal in 1959 and served as the president of the American Anthropological Association in 1964. Among his numerous publications were the PUEBLC OF SANTA ANA, NEW MEXICO (1942), THE SCIENCE OF CULTURE (1949), THE EVOLUTION OF CULTURE (1959) and THE CONCEPT OF CULTURE (1973) as well as more than 100 journal articles. At the time of his death he was working on the culture of capitalism on which he had been working for the past two decades.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

### ANOTHER REQUEST FOR HELP

A recent letter from Dr. Henriette Mertz, 5425 East View Park, Chicago, Illinois 60615, has been received. Dr. Mertz is publishing a book in the near future which contains a great deal of information about Russell Cave, and she needs a black and white photograph of the cave mouth, a view from the interior looking out, or any other interesting view which does not contain persons, cars, etc. If any of our members have such photographs, she will be glad to pay for a copy, and give proper credit to the photographer.

## A SOCIETY AND ITS CHAPTERS

A society is composed of its members. The strength, morals, loyalty and accomplishments of the members will be reflected in the total society. In a useful society, each member cannot do "his own thing," without regard for the others. And so, the chapters help coordinate the ideas, dreams, plans and work of all the members. This is especially true of archaeology. Without loyalty and dedication to the principles of the society and cooperation through chapter activities, a society can actually contribute to the destruction of that which we as amateur archaeologists attempt to preserve and record, the history of man.

I have become disturbed this year by the ineffectiveness of many of our local chapters. We report 12 chapters to ESAF and there are 14 listed on the letterhead for Stones & Bones plus the Birmingham Women's Auxiliary, The Fastfinders, making a total of 15. How many are holding meetings? What has been done this year toward preserving Alabama's heritage and instructing our members? What has your chapter done beside further the hobby (?) of collecting artifacts? So far in 1975, nine different chapters have sent in reports to Stones & Bones. Many for only a month or two, one for every month - and we should recognize those who have been most faithful. Huntsville has not missed a month; Muscle Shoals has missed one month and Cullman, two. We should salute their respective secretaries as they are responsible for sending in the information, but also I believe these chapters have been the most active groups in the state.

I would like to use a quote from the West Virginia Archeological Society Newsletter by Hillis J. Youse of Charleston, WVa., who was the 1974 winner of the Society's Award of Merit. The Chapters of this society use the watershed concept of boundary lines in assigning areas of responsibility. This year they would like to organize chapters in areas not yet covered. Mr. Youse says, "Along with the pleasure and prestige of chapterhood goes the responsibility of looking after the archaeological endowments and educational needs of the chapter's territory. This responsibility is not something to be feared but rather to be looked upon as a challenge to discover and record what might otherwise be lost forever. Nor should chapter members feel bound to work only in their respective chapter areas. Being Society members, they are free to work anywhere in the state as long as they exercise due respect for the rights of property owners and affiliated chapters. Cooperation between chapters is naturally expected in order to achieve most effectively the goals of the Society in any given site or situation." Now that the children are back in school again (we hope), Congress reconvenes, a multitude of conferences, conventions and seminars have been scheduled for the next few months; with this burst of activity, why don't you personally think about a more active local chapter of the Alabama Archaeological Society and then DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. I expect to see a good attendance in Montgomery for the Annual Meeting November 22-23, 1975.

(Marjorie Gay, President)

SEND IN YOUR PREREGISTRATION FORM FOR THE WINTER ANNUAL MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WILL BE ONE YOU SHOULDN'T MISS!!!

## CCFENA MOUND EXCAVATION

The Office of Archaeological Research at the University of Alabama has just completed excavation of 1Ms300, a Copena site consisting of two burial mounds. The site is in Marshall County about 1/4 mile from the backwaters of Guntersville Lake.

Excavations of Mound A began in 1974, and most of the mound was dug at that time. This excavation found approximately 40 burials and other features, many of which were sterile pits, possibly the remainder of other burials. Bone was preserved in only a few instances.

During the winter while excavation had halted, Mound A was visited by the ever-present pothunters, but damage was fortunately slight.

The 1975 excavations completed work at Mound A, concentrating mainly on the excavation of the edges of the mound for more information on construction and distribution of features in the mound.

Mound B was a very small rise just west of Mound A. A profile trench and one 2 by 2-meter square excavated in 1974 had confirmed that this rise was indeed a second mound. The excavation of Mound B this summer uncovered a few archaeological features and a small amount of cultural material.

The artifacts recovered from 1Ms300 are typical of the Copena burial complex: galena and puddled clay features were common, and some greenstone celts were found. Copper artifacts were rather scarce. Only a few copper beads and one small celt were found. Two samples of organic material were preserved by their contact with the copper, a length of cord and some woven fabric. Some rather large pottery sherds, unusual in Copena mounds, were also found. Unfortunately the pottery was poorly preserved. In addition, a number of radiocarbon samples were collected from each of the mounds and when processed they should yield additional information on the length of time over which the mounds were constructed and the chronological relationships of this site to the Copena complex as a whole, and to other sites in the southeast.

(Eugene Futato, Tuscaloosa Chapter)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS CLOSE TO HOME

- October 10-11 - Cultural Heritage Series at Westville Village, Lumpkin, Georgia  
For details write Westville, Box 1850, Lumpkin, Georgia 31815
- October 11-12 - Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Archaeological Society at the University of Tennessee Space Institute between Manchester and Tullahoma, Tennessee. For details write Travis Binion, 310 Layne St., Tullahoma.
- November 6-8 - Southeastern Archaeological Conference/Conference on Historic Site Archaeology/American Society for Ethnohistory at the Gainesville Hilton, Gainesville, Florida.
- November 22-23 - ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING. SEE FRONT PAGE FOR DETAILS - MORE NEXT MONTH.

(Marjorie Gay, East Alabama Chapter)

## SIXTEENTH ANNUAL DIG FUND DRIVE

As we approach the end of the Drive for 1975, we are still hopeful that during the early part of October, more of our "regulars" will respond to our repeated appeals to join with the others acknowledged to date, and make our total collections for the year more nearly in line with previous years. This past month's joiners are:

Jerome A. Cooper, Birmingham, our second "New Donor" of the year.

Birmingham Anthropological Society, for the THIRTEENTH year.

Lively-Long-Josselyn Febble Tool Papers, their FOURTH contribution for 1975.

Following our usual custom, we shall include in the November Newsletter a listing of all contributors for 1975, and if you have not arranged to have your name included, now is the time to use the coupon at the bottom of the inside back cover of this Newsletter to make your tax deductible donation toward defraying the contracted-for expenses of our Society's excavations during last summer.

## INFORMATION REQUESTED

Following publication of his ROCK ARE OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY, James L. Swauger, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213, is expanding his study of American Indian petroglyphs and pictographs to include those occurring in all states east of the Mississippi. He would like to hear from others interested in these phenomena and will much appreciate any information sent to him.

(James L. Swauger, Carnegie Museum)

## CHAPTER MAKING POINT IDENTIFICATION SLIDES

The Muscle Shoals Chapter is making a set of point identification slides. We are trying to include a range of the types when we are able to assemble enough good examples of a particular type. We are attempting to make slides of most of the types shown in the Cambron and Hulse point type identification book. So far we have concentrated on Faleo and Transitional Faleo types, but plan to shoot the Archaic types at the September Chapter meeting. This summer and fall project should help the chapter members become more proficient at point identification. We will follow up this report with a summary when we finish the project.

(Charles Moore, Muscle Shoals Chapter)

(Editor's Note: Other chapters might take the hint from the Muscle Shoals Chapter and let your newsletter know what your current projects are so that fellow society members sharing an interest in the project might participate or offer their assistance.)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

### NEW MEMBERS DURING SEPTEMBER

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce L. McGowan, 127 Springdale Drive, Milton, Florida  
32570 (Family)

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Nevin, Box 30, Route 1, Moundville, Alabama 35474  
(Family)

### CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter met September 11 at 7:30 and were treated to a slide presentation by Joe Watkins, Jr. on the Mayan Indians and the Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter. Their October 2nd meeting, also at 7:30pm will be held at their new location, 1324 22nd Street South just off Arlington and Highland Avenues three blocks from Britling's Cafeteria. The subject of the October 2nd meeting will be the methods and theory of flint knapping, presented by Tom Hutto, Charlie Johnson and Paul McLaughlin. New members are encouraged to attend.

Cullman Chapter met September 15th and the featured speaker was Charles Hubbert who spoke on the Paleo Indians in North Alabama. The chapter reports that the dedication of the Colonel Cullman Home on August 31st was a great success and they would like to publicly thank the following people for all their fine (and hard) work: Howard King, Eulis King, Frank Shikle, C. B. Chamblee, Gary Moore and James Fox.

Huntsville Chapter was very pleased to have as their featured speaker, Houston Wright, who spoke on "Archaeological Museum Survey" in two parts on the evenings of August 26th and September 23rd. Regular meeting place is the 2nd floor auditorium of the Huntsville Public Library.

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:30pm at the Indian Mound Museum in Florence, Alabama. Their slide reproduction project is continuing. See page 7 for additional information.

### ANOTHER PLEA

Sometimes it seems as though every time you turn around, someone is asking for something - usually money - and sometimes you don't even have a chance to turn. It is always very tiresome, both for those who ask as well as those who give...BUT your help is needed so that the Research Association can pay the expenses incurred by last summer's archaeological work. The excavation results were very exciting and rewarding, and no one tires of hearing about the excavations and the data recovered. However, if there is no money to pay for the work there will be nothing in the future to listen to, which will not only be distressing to the present generation, but also to future generations. If we don't know about the past we cannot properly prepare for the future. Think about sending in a couple of dollars this month, every little bit helps!



## 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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To THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for

\_\_\_\_\_ New Membership  
\_\_\_\_\_ Payment of Annual Dues  
\_\_\_\_\_ Reporting of New Address

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Rodger L. Schaefer  
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Decatur, Ala. 35601

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(Residents of Foreign Countries, including Canada & Mexico: \$1.00 additional for Regular, Associate or Institutional membership, \$10.00 additional for Individual Life and \$15.00 additional for Joint Life Membership)

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## THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION OF ALABAMA, INC.

This Association, an affiliate of our State Society, is a non-profit corporation, whose aim and purpose is to finance archaeological advancement in Alabama, the FIRST State to provide such financial support through popular subscription. All contributions to this association are deductible in making your income tax return (if, of course, you itemize your deductions). Your check should be made payable to the association as shown above.

The coupon below, after being completed to show information in each blank, should accompany your contribution, to insure proper credit and acknowledgment.

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 BOX 66  
 MOUNDVILLE, AL. 35474



MOUNDVILLE, ALA. 35474

P. O. BOX 66

C/O MR. & MRS. JERRY J. NIELSEN

Alabama Archaeological Society



## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types</i> . . . . .	\$7.35 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part II, Uniface Blade and Flake Tools</i> . . . . .	2.25 pp
<i>Lively, Long, Josselyn — Pebble Tool Papers</i> . . . . .	3.00 pp

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