

# Alabama Archaeological Society

## Stones & Bones

Volume 38, Issue 4

April 1996

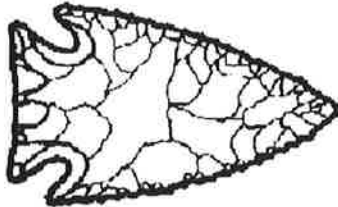
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### What's Happening Around the State

In the summer of 1994, the University of Alabama tested Site 1La601, located on a small, sandy knoll in the Town Creek drainage basin. Although the site was found to be disturbed, the recovery of a number of Paleoindian artifacts during testing presented a compelling reason for continued investigations there. Large-scale excavations were carried out the following winter under contract to the ADOT. These excavations not only provided information on the Paleoindian component of the site, but also led to the recovery of substantial Early and Middle Archaic assemblages.

In many ways Site 1La601 is a typical disturbed upland scatter of mostly lithics with very little preservation of bone and other organic materials. Excavations, however, revealed a very diverse technological assemblage, including not only the usual projectile points and bifaces (many of which were unbroken), but also uniface scrapers, backed blades, adzes, manos, metates, abraders, nutting stones, hammerstones, microblades, cores, and even a fragment of an atlatl weight. The Paleoindian assemblage includes Clovis,

Quad, Beaver Lake, Hardaway Side-Notched, and Dalton point forms, as well as one fragment of a fluted point. The Early Archaic assemblage is represented by Big Sandy (Early Side-Notched), and (most extensively) by Kirk Corner-Notched projectile points. One example of a large Big Sandy was made from a Clovis point, the older surface (including the flutes) being highly patinated. The Middle Archaic assemblage is dominated by Morrow Mountain projectile points. Analysis of these assemblages is almost complete.

Two pit features were also found during excavations at the site, one of which provided a solid Middle Archaic radiocarbon date of 7240 +/- 60 BP. The charcoal contents of these features provided a surprisingly young date of 1200 +/- 60 BP. The botanical contents of these features are currently being analyzed by Dr. Kristen Gremillion, of Ohio State University, to obtain information about plant foods eaten by the prehistoric inhabitants of the site.

Site 1La601 is an example of a disturbed site that, nonetheless, is important because it offers information on use of the uplands by early hunter-gatherers in northern Alabama. Few archaeological sites of comparable ages, particularly open-air sites, have been excavated in the upland zones. The site will help to fill this gap in our knowledge

of Paleoindian, Early Archaic, and Middle Archaic people.

*by Nurit S. Goldman-Finn, Office of Archaeological Services, University of Alabama.*



Photo of a Clovis reworked into a Big Sandy.  
*Photo taken by Daniel Tillman.*

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## SEAC Public Outreach Grants

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The Southeastern Archaeological Conference announces a program of small grants to finance public outreach projects and invites applicants for 1996. The following guidelines should be followed when applying for a grant:

1) Projects proposed for grant funding should promote public awareness of archaeology in the Southeast. Most grants will be for activities held in conjunction with the SEAC annual meeting. Grants for teacher workshops, public symposia, field trips for the public to archaeological sites (in conjunction with the annual meeting of the SEAC), printed material for public consumption, or Native American outreach programs are encouraged. Other possibilities might include grants for Archaeology Week celebrations, particularly to the

state which will host the annual meeting of the Conference.

2) Grants cannot be used for receptions, food, or entertainment;

3) Grants may be applied for by anyone; it is not necessary to be a SEAC member;

4) Grants will not exceed a total of \$1000.00 per year. Applicants are encouraged to seek additional funding sources;

5) Proposals should consist of a short (3 page maximum) statement of purpose, a list of potential supplementary funding sources, and a budget specifying how grant funds will be spent. Three copies of the proposal must be submitted;

6) Grants will be reviewed by a three-member standing committee of SEAC and approved by the SEAC Board. The committee will be appointed by the President from current SEAC Board members and may include in addition local meeting arrangement persons;

7) The deadline for submitting grant proposals is June 1, 1996. Notification of grant awards will be given by August 1 to allow inclusion in the SEAC meeting program where appropriate;

8) Successful applicants should acknowledge SEAC in any printed material they produce through the grant and in announcements at any public meetings associated with grant-funded activities;

Grant proposals should be submitted to Dick Jefferies, Department of Anthropology, 211 Lafferty Hall, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. Applications also may be submitted via FAX at (606) 323-1959.

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## SEAC Student Paper Competition and Book Prize

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**Circumstances of the Award-** The 1996 Southeastern Archaeological Conference Book Prize will be awarded to the author of the outstanding paper submitted by a student concerning the prehistory, ethnohistory, or historical archaeology of the Southeastern United States.

**Who May Apply?** Any person currently enrolled in an academic degree-granting program may submit a paper to the competition. Only papers having one author are eligible. The paper must be contributed by the student to the program of the 1996 annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Birmingham.

**About the Competition-** The purpose of the award is to foster student participation in the program of the annual meetings of the SEAC. The Book Prize shall consist of display copies of new and recent titles is Southeastern Archaeology and related topics contributed by the vendors in the book salesroom of the annual meeting. The papers to be judged **must be submitted in advance of the meeting** to a committee appointed by the Executive Board of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference. It is also **the responsibility of the submitter** to send an abstract and the necessary registration forms at the proper time (see 1996 SEAC call for papers) to the Program Chairperson of the annual meeting in order to present the paper as part of the program at the conference.

**How to Apply-** Submit three clean copies of the paper, double-spaced, to the Student Paper Competition committee prior to the deadline of **September 1, 1996**. The submitter will insure that the same version of the paper reviewed for the competition is offered for presentation at the annual meeting. A cover letter should accompany the entry, containing a representation of the student's current status in a degree program. Only one paper submitted per applicant may be considered for the award. Mail the entry to Dr. Margaret

Scarry, Chair, SEAC Student Paper Competition Committee, Department of Anthropology, CB#3115 Alumni Building, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3115.

**The Award-** The winner of the Competition and Book Prize will be announced at the Annual Business Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Sheraton Civic Center, Birmingham, Alabama, on November 8, 1996. The winner may receive the Book Prize (valued at \$2800.00 in 1995) at the Annual Meeting. The Committee reserves the prerogative to reserve the award in the event of a shortage of competitive entries.

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## Calendar

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**April 10-14, 1996-** **Society for American Archaeology** annual meeting will be held in New Orleans, LA. Contact Paul Fish and Suzanne Fish, program chairs, at: (520)-621-2556

Fax:(520)-621-2976

email: archaeo@ccit.arizona.edu.

**April 22, 1996-** Jane Goodall will speak at Huntingdon College at 7:30 pm. This free lecture is open to the public as part of the ongoing Stallworth Lecture Series. For further information, call Dr. Douglas McGinty, Huntingdon College, at (334)833-4470. For group reservations, please call the Huntingdon College Student Life Office at (334)833-4401.

**April 23-27, 1996-** Three Choctaw sisters Minnie Bell, Claudia Thompson, and Jessie Thompson of Ripley, Tennessee, will show how to make river cane baskets, several types of beadwork, and appliqued Choctaw dresses at Moundville Archaeological Park. This is part of the Native American Heritage Days. Admission is \$2.00 for children and \$4.00 for adults. Call Dorothy Beckham at (205)371-2572 for more information or to make reservations.

**April 26, 1996-** Native American Day at FDR's Little White House, Warm Springs, GA. Contact Charles Barnes or Mary Thrash at (706) 655-5870.

**April 29-May 1, 1996-** Wood Bell, a noted Choctaw elder from Memphis, Tennessee, will teach traditional songs at the Moundville Archaeological Park as part of the Native American Heritage Days.

**May 2-4, 1996-** Choctaw potter Grady John from the Chucalissa Museum in Memphis, Tennessee, will be at the Moundville Archaeological Park as part of the Native American Heritage Days. Grady makes reproductions of prehistoric Native American pottery. His wife Betty will demonstrate beadwork.

**May 7-11, 1996-** Reenactor Butch Fuller will be at Moundville Archaeological Park as part of the Native American Heritage Days. He portrays a Creek Indian hunter and trader during the late 18th century. This "living exhibit" is decorated with authentic reproductions of tools, weapons, clothing and other artifacts.

**May 11, 1996-** The 17th annual Old Cahawba Festival will be held at the Old Cahawba Archaeological State Park. There will be arts, crafts, living history, music and games for kids of all ages. While there visitors may tour the historic ruins and trails of the antebellum town. The festival is held in old downtown Cahawba from 9 am to 5 pm. Cahawba is located 12 miles west of Selma, AL. Follow State Highway 22 West toward Orville. After you cross the Cahaba River, turn left onto county road #9 and follow the signs. The cost is three dollars per car. All proceeds go toward the purchase and preservation of the town site of Old Cahawba. For more information contact the Welcome Center at (334) 872-8058. For vendor information call Elise Blackwell at (334) 872-1026.

**May 16-18, 1996-** The Center for the Study of Southern Culture, the National Park Service's Natchez Trace Parkway office, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History will examine the multi-layered cultural landscape of the American South through a conference entitled "Southern Landscapes: Past, Present, Future."

This three day event will consist of presentations by speakers from the fields of archaeology, historic preservation, landscape architecture,

history, cultural geography, and anthropology. Participants will also have the opportunity to tour numerous sites in Mississippi. Possible locations include the Choctaw Indian Reservation in Philadelphia, Greenville and a variety of other locations in the Mississippi Delta, the Natchez Parkway, and Civil War battle sites around Corinth. The third day will begin with a keynote address by Roger Kennedy, Director of the National Park Service, and will be followed by a series of panel sessions highlighting outstanding examples of landscape preservation, documentation, and restoration, cultural tourism, and preservation education.

The conference will take place at the University of Mississippi in Oxford. Contact Jennifer Bryant at the Center for Study of Southern Culture for more information or a registration form. A reduced fee will be offered for students. (601) 232-5993. The address is

Center for Study of Southern Culture  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi 38677

**June 29-30, 1996-** The 17th Meeting of the Mid-South Archaeological Conference will be held at Ellis Auditorium, The University of Memphis, Memphis, Tennessee. Sponsors are the Department of Anthropology at the University of Memphis; Garrow and Associates, Inc.; and Panamerican Consultants, Inc. Program organizers are:

Charles McNutt, Dept. of Anthropology  
Univ. of Memphis, Memphis TN 38152  
(901-678-2168; mcnuttc @ cc.  
memphis.edu)

Michell Chidress  
c/o Garrow and Assoc., Inc.  
510 S. Main, Memphis, TN 38103  
(901) 526-8008

Rick Walling,  
Panamerican Consultants, Inc.  
15 S. Idlewild, Memphis, TN 38104  
(901- 274-4244; panamrcn @ south.icerve  
.net)

The theme of this year's meeting is "Results of Recent Investigations in the Greater Mid-South." Presentations will be limited to 20-30 minutes. Titles and Abstracts must be received by Rick Walling by **May 15** on a 3 1/2" disk in WordPerfect 6, Word 5.1 for Mac, or compatible format. Papers will be published if provided in publication-ready form at the meetings. For further information, contact any of the above sponsors.

**October 24-27, 1996-** The Council of West Virginia Archaeology invites you to the Eastern States Archaeological Federation 63rd Annual Meeting at the Radisson Hotel, Huntington, West Virginia. Abstracts for proposed papers and symposia are due **June 1, 1996**. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to: State, Local, and Chapter Site surveys and excavations, the Woodland Transition Mounds and related cultural complexes. Individual historic and prehistoric open session papers are also welcome. For more information contact:

Robert F. Malowski, Program Chair  
Council for West Virginia Archaeology  
PO Box 1596  
Huntington, WV 25716-1596

**November 6-9, 1996-Southeastern Archaeological Conference** will hold its annual meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. For further information, contact Jim Knight or Ian Brown, Department of Anthropology, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487.

**November 7-10, 1996-** The annual meeting for the American Society for Ethnohistory will be held at The Portland Hilton in Portland, Oregon. Papers, organized sessions, special events, and speakers that treat any world area are encouraged. Abstracts of 50-100 words on appropriate submission forms and preregistration fees of \$45 (non-

members), \$35 (members), and \$15 (students/retired) are due by **May 31, 1996**.

Write for submission forms and return to :

Jacqueline Peterson  
ASE 1996 Meeting Chair  
Department of History  
Washington State University  
1812 E. McLoughlin Blvd.  
Vancouver, WA 98663  
(360) 737-2179

Limited travel funds will be available on a competitive basis for students presenting papers. More detailed abstracts will be required. Write to the Meeting Chair for application forms and further details.

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## Board of Directors Meeting

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The AAS Board of Directors will meet at The Ox Restaurant on Monday, April 29th, 1996, at 6:30 pm. The Ox is located in Brookwood Village which is beside the Brookwood Shopping Center on Lakeshore Drive. From I-65, go east on Lakeshore Drive and Brookwood Village will be on the right past Samford University. From US 280, go west on Highway 149 and Brookwood Village will be on your left. The Ox is clearly visible from Lakeshore Drive. We will eat at 6:30 pm and begin the meeting as soon as possible thereafter. *Note: All chapter presidents are board members.*

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## Chapter News

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### *East Alabama ...*

All members of the local chapter are encouraged to participate in a one-day trip to Moundville Archaeological Park located in Hale County at Moundville, Alabama, about 15 miles south of Tuscaloosa. Plans are to leave from the parking lot of the Alabama Power Company, 230 N. Gay Street, in Auburn at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 27. The approximate driving time to

Moundville is 3-3 1/4 hours. Upon arrival, Paul Jones (Director of Moundville Archaeological Park) will provide us with an orientation to the site, after which we will take a walk on the nature trail to see some of the surrounding area. Following a picnic lunch at the site, Mr. Jones will give a tour of the museum and the village. Arrangements are also being made for us to see the the Moundville Archaeological Laboratory where the artifact collections are housed and a staff of professional archaeologists conduct research. We will leave to return to Auburn in late afternoon.

If you would like to travel with the group, please plan to arrive at the Alabama Power

Company before 8:00 a.m. that Saturday so that we can leave promptly at 8:00. If you are willing to drive and can carry additional people with you, please contact Gary Mullen (Chapter President, 887-9991) or Caroline Dean (Secretary, 745--2494). Likewise, if you do not have your own means of transportation or would like to ride with someone else, please contact one of the individuals above. **Be sure to bring a picnic lunch with you;** there is no place to buy food at the site, other than snacks and drinks from vending machines. Everyone is welcome to invite friends and acquaintances to join us.

### *Huntsville Chapter...*

The Huntsville Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church on Governors Drive, Room 343. The doors will only be open between 6:45 and 7:30 p.m.

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## In the Alabama Archaeological Society's Past

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Twenty-six years ago (in May), the Birmingham Chapter heard a presentation by Rev. Leon W. Gillespie, who was the Executive Vice President of the Southeastern Bible College of Birmingham and also holds an MA degree from the University of Alabama in anthropology, entitled, "What Missionaries Think of Anthropologists".

The Cullman County Chapter discussed artifacts found by Tennessee State Society members from Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, led by Dr. M.L. Myhan.

The Morgan-Limestone Chapter heard a presentation entitled, "Head and Scalp Trophies" by Mr. A.W. Beinlich Jr. It was a discussion of skull cults and scalping practices in the Americas and throughout the world.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

- Vol. 20-31, each issue (two issues per volume).....\$3.50pp  
Vol. 32 & up, each issue (two issues per volume).....\$6.00pp  
*Stanfield- Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations* (Journal of Alabama Archaeology)  
Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint.....\$7.50pp  
Special Publication 2 - *The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama*.....\$6.00pp  
Special Publication 3 - *Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend ..* \$8.00pp  
*Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types*.....\$15.00pp  
*Lively, Long, Josselyn - Pebble Tool Paper*..... \$3.00pp  
*Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology* (Juvenile).....\$9.00pp

## MEMBERSHIP

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 appropriate boxes are checked.

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\*Contributions are tax deductible

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Moundville, AL 35474