

Alabama Archaeological Society

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

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 1974 ANNUAL WINTER MEETING

The Business Session opened with Rodger Schaefer's report on the year's activities for 1974 and the treasurer's report as of December 1, 1974. Total membership for 1974 is 694 which is an all-time high for the society. Special thanks was given to the Cullman and Muscle Shoals Chapters for hosting our two statewide meetings during 1974. Bart Henson's hard work over the past three years has finally been rewarded by the IRS finally granting the society Tax Exempt Status. During 1974 our costs were considerably higher than our income, and even with the increased dues for 1975, we will probably just breakeven for this year. The Alabama Archaeological Society's Scholarship Fund for 1974-75 in the amount of \$250.00 has been awarded to Mack Brooms, graduate student in Anthropology at the University of Alabama. Special Publication #1, The Fort Mitchell Report by Dave Chase was published during 1974 and distributed free to all members who paid their dues by March 31, 1974. The STONES & BONES Newsletter has been mailed monthly during the past year, despite the Post Office and equipment frustrations. A new label machine is on the way and this should eliminate some of the newsletter problems in the future. Both the June and December Journals have been mailed to the membership, and David L. DeJarnette is to be congratulated on keeping the Journals coming out on time.

Britt Thompson, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented a slate of Officers for 1975, after which nominations were opened from the floor. Steve Wimberly nominated Dr. John Walthall as an additional assistant editor for the Journal. It was moved and seconded that the nominations be closed and that the slate of officers as presented be elected by acclamation. (Special Note from Charles Moore: John Walthall of Tuscaloosa was nominated from the floor at the General Business Meeting of the Society, to be a third Editorial Assistant for the Journal. Since our By-Laws provide for only two Editorial Assistants, his nomination is subject to action and approval of the Board of Directors at their next meeting.) The complete list of 1975 officers appears elsewhere in the newsletter.

Charles Moore, president of the society called the meeting to order at 10:30am. George Faulk and Douglas E. Jones of the University of Alabama welcomed the members to the University. Dr. Albert Trowse introduced all the speakers.

JANUARY 1975

The Speaker Program for the 1974 Winter Annual meeting was exceptional and included "The Law and the Future for Archaeology in Alabama", by Mark Raab; "A View From the Top of the World: Alaska Archaeology", by Richard A. Krause; "Chuala: An Alabama Town on White Oak Creek", by David Chase; "The Tellico Reservoir Project in Northeast Tennessee", by Alfred Guthe; "Physical Variations Among Prehistoric Populations of the Southeastern U.S.", by Kenneth Turner; "Archaeological Investigations in the Rother L. Harris Reservoir", by Bruce Bizzoco; "Archaeology of the Collier-Boone House", by Mack Brooms; "Hammermill Paper Company Survey and the Ivey Knoll Project", by David Chase; "Excavations at TVA's Bellefonte Power Generating Plant Site", by Eugene Futato; "Excavations at TVA's Murphy Hill Power Generating Plant Site", by J. B. Graham; "Archaeological Investigations at Gainesville", by Ned Jenkins; "Historic Weeden Site, Twickenham, Alabama", by John Martz; "Archaeological Survey for the Soil Conservation Service", by John C'Hear; "The Jefferson Dormitory Project", by James Parker; "Archaeological Investigations in Baldwin County", by Carlos Solis and "Recent Excavations at the Early 18th Century Site of Port Dauphin", by Read Stowe.

Following the excellent speaker program, Charles Moore introduced Marjorie Gay, 1975 Society President, whose President's Message will appear in February's newsletter. Charles thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the University of Alabama for providing the excellent meeting facilities. Everyone was invited to spend the evening at Mound State Monument where Dr. Richard Krause and David L. DeJarnette had spent the day preparing a barbecue for the members' evening meal. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS DECEMBER 7, 1974 MEETING

Newsletter - Britt Thompson reported that the cost of paper for the newsletter is up over last year and that we are buying a label machine which will make the newsletter production run a little more smoothly. We still need more chapter reports from chapter secretaries and articles from the membership at large.

Journal - David L. DeJarnette reported that similar increased costs of the printing of the Journal has caused higher rates to be charged for the Journal. Both 1974 issues of the Journal have been mailed to the membership. Drake Printers has been giving the Society very good service and this has been one of the main reasons that the last four issues of the Journal have been distributed on time. Back issues of the Journal to 1967 are still available at a cost of \$3.00 each.

Historical Commission - Steve Wimberly reported that a considerable amount of money has been made available to the states for historical restoration. A majority of these funds will be used for the restoration of Antebellum Homes, but money will also be used for historic archaeological site restoration such as Fort Toulouse.

Scholarship and IRS Ruling - Bart Henson reported that we have finally been granted Tax Exempt status by the IRS and that the 1974-75 scholarship has been awarded to Mack Brooms of the University of Alabama.

Site Conservation Committee - Bart Henson reported that a number of sites in need of preservation have been located but at the present time his committee has not come up with a suitable plan for protecting these sites. Currently, however, these sites are not endangered, so there is no immediate rush in this area. It is his recommendation that the 1975 committee develop a plan for protection rather than continuing to work on locating candidate sites for this protection.

Nominating Committee - Britt Thompson reported the slate of officers chosen for 1975 by his committee. This slate is as presented in the November 1974 issue of the STONES & BONES with the addition of Ned Jenkins and Carey Oakley to the Board of Directors. (These officers as elected at the General Meeting are reported elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter.)

Publications - Howard King reported that Carey Oakley has submitted a report on Pinson Cave for possible publication as the next Special Publication of the Society. Rodger Schaefer reported that once all the available Ten Years books have been sold, that money should be available for Special Publication #2.

Archives Committee - Jerry Nielsen reported that the March 1958 issue of the newsletter is the only missing publication of the past 20 years of the Society. Additional chapter reports and founder's statements are expected shortly.

Science Fair Awards - Tom Cornell reported that it is doubtful that the Society can do anything on a state level as it would require some \$1,000.00 or more being put up for these awards. He recommends that local chapters work with the local science fairs.

Annual Meetings - There has as yet been no invitation from any chapters to host the summer meeting. Charles Moore requested that the chapters consider an invitation and present this at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

Amos Wright reported that the weather has been bad for the last four or five winter meetings and that this has held attendance down. He proposed that the Society consider holding the Winter Meeting in November rather than December and that we consider the Saturday prior to the Alabama-Auburn Football Game. It was moved and seconded and passed that the board members consider this at the Spring Meeting.

YEAR-END AUDIT

E. Milton Harris of Birmingham has agreed to perform a year-end audit of the books of our Society. Milt also handled this for 1973 for which we are very appreciative.

(Charles Moore, Muscle Shoals Chapter)

We want to take this opportunity to thank Dean Douglas Jones, Mr. George Faulk and the members of the Tuscaloosa Chapter for their hard work in hosting the Winter Annual Meeting.

WELCCME 1975 OFFICERS

President	Marjorie Gay
1st Vice President	Dr. Albert Trowse
2nd Vice President	Howard King
Secretary/Treasurer	Rodger L. Schaefer
Assistant Treasurer	Brittain Thompson
Editor of the Journal	David L. DeJarnette
Editorial Assistant	Mrs. Valerie Scarritt
Editorial Assistant	Mrs. Christine Wimberly
Photographer	Dr. A. G. Long
Editor of the Newsletter	Brittain Thompson
Editorial Assistant	Jerry J. Nielsen
Editorial Assistant	Judith G. Nielsen
ESAF Representative	David L. DeJarnette
Alternate Representative	Robert W. Gay
Representative to the Ala. Hist. Com.	Steve Wimberly
Board of Directors at Large	Dr. William E. Goslin (1)
	Howard King (1)
	Truman Ryan (1)
	Eugene Stewart (1)
	N. Read Stowe (1)
	Michael Wells (1)
	David Chase (2)
	Drusilla McGowan (2)
	E. M. Harris (2)
	Margaret Searcy (2)
	William Wesley (2)
	Amos Wright (2)
	Milo B. Howard (3)
	Dr. E. M. Lindsey (3)
	B. Bart Henson (3)
	Charles E. Moore (3)
	Ned J. Jenkins (3)
	Carey B. Cakley, Jr. (3)

We are glad to have such fine and capable officers for 1975!

NEW BOOKS PUBLISHED

Lost Adobes of Monterey County by Donald M. Howard. 105 pages, paper \$2.95 plus tax. This is a survey of adobe sites that have been poorly known for years, and contains unique and unpublished photos of little known adobe sites and stories of the pioneer people who occupied them.

Archaeology in Paradise by Donald M. Howard is a 93 page paperback which surveys the interesting archaeological sites of Monterey County, Ca. \$2.95 plus tax. Order the above two from Monterey County Archaeological Society, Box 4606, Carmel, Ca. 93921.

THE AMATEUR ARCHAEOLOGIST

Enthusiasm, devotion, patience and hard work would have to be part of a portrait painted of the dedicated amateur archaeologist. That portrait should reveal unbound curiosity and a sense of inquiry that goes beyond hunting artifacts on weekend outings.

The dedicated amateur participates in archaeological societies in all parts of the country and contributes greatly to the research of professional archaeologists. The local amateur is out in the deserts, fields and mountains far more than the professional archaeologists, and will often know the whereabouts of important archaeological sites before research departments in museums and universities. Their field reports and surveys are evaluated in museums and universities in almost every state in the United States.

Many amateur archaeologists, or non-professional archaeologists, as many prefer to be called, attempt to do the best job they can in recording and interpreting archaeological sites. Even though they are out in the field or in the laboratory on a volunteer basis, they are dedicated to systematic scientific inquiry. To these amateur scientists this is not enough. In increasing numbers they are turning from interests in arrowheads and potsherds to the study of the people in the prehistoric societies that occupied their areas. Some are even viewing the prehistoric remains in an archaeological site as the debris left by a group of inter-related subsystems of a culture. They realize that culture is not shared, but participated in differentially by individuals who are members of various subsystems. Rather than attempting to identify only time and space relationships as in typical cultural histories, they are attempting to test hypotheses about social behavior of the prehistoric inhabitants of archaeological sites and to ask and answer questions in theory that are part of cultural anthropology.

These dedicated amateur archaeologists have backgrounds in anthropology achieved by taking courses in local universities and by intensive reading in anthropological journals. Their work is of such quality that it can be rechecked, if necessary, by professional archaeologists.

Amateur archaeological societies are no longer the bailiwick of pothunters and weekend dilettantes. Their activities are group oriented, where a wide variety of skilled researchers contribute their knowledge to systematic controlled study that results in published reports. Young members of amateur groups learn methods of scientific inquiry and many of them seek university educations and become professional anthropologists.

Amateur archaeologists are increasingly dedicated to conservation and environmental preservation. They are concerned about the rampant destruction of prehistoric and historic sites and the environment as non-renewable resources. They are increasingly aware that their own collecting and digging are destructive to archaeological and natural environments. The recognition that an archaeological site is a unique and irreplaceable part of man's history is a part of the awareness. (Herb C. Morrow, from El Paso Centennial Museum Field Notes, V. II, No. 6)

LOCAL PRINCESS MAKES NEWS (PERSONS WHO WERE)

All Indian women, whom history has noticed, have a few things in common; they are beautiful, they are maidens and their title is Princess. Therefore we present our first local Southeast Princess; known through the writings of DeSoto's men as the Princess Cofachiqui.

We are told of her meeting with DeSoto - she was rowed across the river by eight handmaidens. This somewhat pastoral scene is an obvious imitation of Cleo going up the river Cydnus to meet Mark. She is alleged to have bowed, seated herself on a throne beside Hernando and started talking. (It is a fact that the conferences of today are dominated by the biggest wheels. So it was then and ever shall be.)

Not understanding that DeSoto was motivated by a splendid desire for more gold, (he had done quite well as an officer with Pizzaro in extruding a few cubic yards of trinkets from the Incas in Peru), the beautiful, dusky Princess, was willing to share half of what was hers. This offer obviously touched DeSoto since we are advised that he graciously accepted from her a large string of pearls, the only thing of mundane value she had at that moment.

Her village was made into a hospitable camp site and Hernando and his soldiers briefly lolled amidst the magnolias. Fortunately, DeSoto was high-souled and soon encouraged his men to check out the local burial grounds and temples. This modest expenditure of gratitude netted some 400 pounds of pearls.

Having heard the mother of the Princess had a few pearls of her own, Hernando decided to protect these also. Our heroine, young and of striking beauty, commanded a young warrior to guide some thirty gallant cavaliers to her mother's distant home. Cofachiqui instructed the warrior to tell her mother to come peacefully and as a friend. (Though beautiful she was not stupid.)

The warrior, who had been raised by the Queen Mother and was loved by her as a son and strangely enough reciprocated this affection, was also not stupid. At the halfway point of the journey, a stop for food permitted him to show his arrows to the Spaniards for their admiration. Highly polished, tipped with flint, staghorn and even fishbones - they engrossed the attention of the worthy Europeans, at which point, loving the Queen Mother and knowing the orders of her daughter - he killed himself. (It has been said that his solution to such a romantic dilemma - inability to please two women - has few equals and no peers).

In defense of having recalled this fragment of history, we remember that Herodotus said the purpose of history was "To rescue from oblivion the noble deeds of those who have gone before."

(Britt Thompson, Birmingham Chapter)

WORKING TOGETHER PRODUCES RESULTS

Steatite is one of the few rocks soft enough to be carved with stone tools. As such it was extensively utilized by the Indians and steatite bowls, pipes, atlatl weights, ornaments, etc. are frequently found many miles from the nearest source of the stone. When different cultures come into contact, as during trade, each is exposed to new concepts and ideas. This increases the possible alternate choices for each culture and greater variation is the general result. Times and areas of high culture transmission result in greater cultural variety. This is the heart of the concept of "interaction spheres."

Since steatite was a highly desirable commodity and was widely traded, knowledge of the sources of steatite and the routes and mechanisms of its trade would be a valuable tool in tracing contact between aboriginal peoples. Two anthropologists and one chemist at the University of Virginia have been working on this problem for over two years. They are using neutron activation analysis to measure the exact amounts of many trace elements in steatite samples. The results of these tests are then used to try to determine the quarry source of steatite artifacts. So far they have analyzed samples from 25-30 aboriginal quarries from the Piedmont and artifacts from many areas. A detailed description of their methods is being published in Archaeometry, Vol. 17, Part I.

Alabama is a state rich in steatite outcrops and artifacts and a number of amateur and professional archaeologists have cooperated in providing steatite samples from across the state for study in Virginia. In addition to this office the following people have submitted samples from artifacts and/or quarries from their respective areas: David Chase, Marjorie Gay, Ned Jenkins, Jerry Nielsen, Read Stowe and Amos Wright. Incidentally, a paper by Amos Wright concerning a steatite quarry site has just been published in the Journal of the Alabama Academy of Sciences.

Professional and amateur archaeologists all strive for the same proclaimed goals, and this project is a good example of their working together to reach those goals.

(Eugene Futato, Tuscaloosa Chapter)

MORE 1974 DIG FUND DONATIONS

Since last month, 2 additional checks from donors have been received, bringing the contributor total to 31 for the year. These are the latest: Sigfus Olafson, West Virginia, a greatly appreciated CHARTER DONOR, making his gift to our Funds for the FIFTEENTH consecutive year. A valued friend of ours!

Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Douglass, Birmingham, make their FOURTH contribution to support our archaeological excavations as evidence of their continuing interest.

For 1974 we have received \$1,791.00, and \$118.00 from the Dan Josselyn Memorial Fund. A special thanks to everyone who cooperated in this endeavor. By June we hope to have a report on what was accomplished with the Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS DURING DECEMBER

Ken Brazelton, Route 2, Box 461-C, Huntsville, Alabama 35811
Peter Pardue, P.O. Box 267, Calera, Alabama 35040 (Associate)

CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Anthropological Society has elected the following officers for 1975: Thomas Hutto, President; Joseph Watkins, Jr., 1st Vice President; Paul McLaughlin, 2nd Vice President; E. Milton Harris, Treasurer; Mrs. Margaret McNair, Secretary and Charles Johnson, Publicity Chairman. A new meeting location will be tried for the January 9th meeting. The place will be in the Bowron Room, 4th Floor of the Birmingham Public Library at 7:30 PM. The January 9th (second Thursday of the month) meeting is a one time deviation only from the normal meeting schedule of the first Thursday each month.

Choccolocco Chapter met November 21 and elected new officers who are: Cecil Stedham, President; Tommy Mullendore, Vice President; Nancy Grace, Secretary-Treasurer; Lois Goodwyn, Editor; and the Board of Directors is composed of Harold Timmons and Larry Craft. The chapter agreed to skip the December meeting because of the holidays. The January 16 meeting will be held at 7:30 PM in the Regar Museum.

Huntsville Chapter met on November 11 at the Fellowship Center in the Old Twickenham Hotel. Amos Wright spoke on the "Mound Builders of the Ohio Valley" which was highlighted by color slides. The December 17 meeting was held in the auditorium of the Huntsville Public Library where John Martz presented a film from the University of Iowa entitled "Millweek Village People." Officers for 1975 are: William Wesley, President; John Martz, 1st Vice President; Harold Biggs, 2nd Vice President; Ruby Walter, Secretary-Treasurer and Georgia Dunn, Librarian.

Muscle Shoals Chapter met December 9th at the Indian Mound Museum. Jim Miller presided in place of Charles Hubbert who was unable to make the meeting. Nineteen people were present. Charles Moore gave a report on the State Meeting in Tuscaloosa. The City of Florence recently purchased some artifacts for the Museum. These artifacts, including a Redstone, were about to leave the area. Charles Hubbert is trying to promote a Paleo site dig in January in conjunction with the University of North Alabama. Lab work will be undertaken after the dig, but this class must have a minimum of 15 members.

Four Chapter News reports for the first newsletter of 1975 is not particularly encouraging, but perhaps this will pick up next month. Your news must be received by the 13th of the month to appear in the newsletter. We thank the above four chapters for helping us to start 1975 with their local happenings.

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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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.

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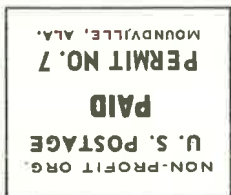


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C/O MR. & MRS. JERRY J. NIELSEN

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
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